

## Major Haddad resigns

Major Saad Haddad, the commander of the Israeli-backed Christian militia in south Lebanon, announced that he was resigning for health reasons. In a broadcast he said his resignation had nothing to do with Israel and named Lieutenant Shabul Barakat as his successor. However, reports in Lebanon said the major was unhappy about the restraint imposed on him by Israel under the terms of the cross-border ceasefire. **Page 5**

## More petrol prices to rise

Motorists face an increase of as much as 4p on a gallon of petrol as more refiners follow the lead and raise their prices in response to new rates set by oil producing nations including Britain. **Page 17**

## Beginnings of a spy

Leo Long and Michael Straight who were approached by Anthony Blunt and asked to supply information to the Soviet Union, are pictured as members of the Cambridge Union Society in 1957. **Page 3**

## Korchnoi wins game 13

Viktor Korchnoi has won the thirteenth game of his world chess championship match with Anatoly Karpov, the titleholder, who now leads 4-2. The game had been adjourned on Thursday with Korchnoi dominant, and Karpov resigned before play could be resumed. **Page 4**

## Return of former champion jockey

John O'Neill, the former champion National Hunt jockey, who broke his right leg in a fall at the age of 15 months ago, is resuming riding at Wetherby on December 1. O'Neill was the leading rider in the 1977-78 and 1978-79 seasons. **Page 23**

## Campaign to curb GLC

A £200,000 campaign has been launched by leading industrialists and businessmen to challenge the powers of the Labour-controlled Greater London Council. Called "Keep London Free", it has been organized by Aims of Industry, the right-wing organization. **Page 2**

## Reagan warned of huge deficit

Mr Reagan has been warned by his economic advisers that the United States budget deficit could rise to \$185,000m (£77,000m) by 1984. Meanwhile, unemployment rose half a percentage point to 8 per cent, the highest level since 1975. **Page 17**

## Peace force for Chad soon

The inter-African peace-keeping force for Chad would be installed by the beginning of next week, according to a Lagos report shortly after President Ouéddei of Chad arrived to discuss the details with President Shugu of Nigeria. **Page 5**

## Trudeau tackles Ottawa MPs

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, is expected to tackle the opposition in Parliament in his efforts to bring home the national constitution from Westminster, after winning agreement from most of the provincial premiers. Opposition parties are unhappy with some aspects of the package. **Page 4**

## Court confession

The Lord Chief Justice gave guidance to courts on applying principles relating to admissibility of confessions in criminal proceedings. **Law Report, page 4**

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# Anglo-Irish council aims at new impetus

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The governments of Britain and the Irish Republic agreed yesterday to establish an Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council, which will give expression to what they call their "unique relationship". They leave their two parliaments to consider at an appropriate time whether there should also be a joint body at parliamentary level which would involve politicians from both countries, including Northern Ireland.

That outcome of the second of the Anglo-Irish summit meetings, established last December, was described by the Prime Minister as "perhaps giving a new impetus to Anglo-Irish co-operation". She thought it would lead to more regular contacts between ministers and officials of the two governments. But the new council would not be "a great big new bureaucratic body".

Both governments also agreed to work towards setting up an associated advisory committee with a wide membership seeking economic, social, and cultural cooperation.

Dr Garret FitzGerald, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, said: "We are moving step by step towards a new relationship". He and Mrs Margaret Thatcher agreed, he said, that a solution in Northern Ireland could be found only in the context of a wider Anglo-Irish relationship.

No large claims were made by either side after yesterday's talks at Downing Street which Mrs Thatcher described as warm, friendly, practical, constructive, and workmanlike. Dr FitzGerald said they were extremely cordial.

Mrs Thatcher will make a statement in Parliament on Tuesday, her earliest opportunity, and thus avoid the charge directed at her after her meeting in Dublin with Mr Charles Haughey last year that she and her Government had something to hide. She has also decided, apparently at Dr FitzGerald's urging, to publish in full next week the proposals for the council, which were set in train at the Dublin summit.

Only the study on security questions will be kept back from publication. The two governments' differing views of Northern Ireland's future, which the British communiqué put out after the talks, Mrs Thatcher had affirmed, and Dr FitzGerald had agreed, it said, that any change in Northern Ireland's constitutional status would require the consent of the majority there.

Mrs Thatcher, speaking after the talks, said that the law guaranteed that there could be no change in Northern Ireland's constitution without the consent of the Northern Ireland majority. She was not departing one word from that position. "I hope I have made that clear again and again."

But the core of the agreement is the intergovernmental council, which will clearly be seen in Ireland as an instrument for political cooperation over the North at some level and at some date. No such suggestion, however, appears in the communiqué.

Mrs Thatcher, who was well briefed and careful at her press conference, was asked if she foresaw the council ever debating the constitutional position of Northern Ireland. The more suspicious of observers may make something of the fact that she answered neither "yes" nor "no". Instead, she repeated the constitutional pledge to the North which is enshrined in the 1973 statute. "That is the law of the land," she said. "It cannot be changed without reference to Parliament, and I cannot see Parliament lightly changing that pledge."

The whole emphasis of the communiqué is on economic co-operation which the two sides agreed should be intensified. The communiqué was vague, but noted the possibility of cooperation on gas and electricity supplies.

Roman Catholic politicians in Northern Ireland welcomed the creation of the new council but expressed disappointment that it would not have any elected representation (Christian Thomas writes from Belfast). There is no doubt that Parliament in Dublin would approve the idea of setting up an elected Anglo-Irish assembly.

Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, said it was clear that unionists had nothing to fear from the new structure. There was no betrayal.

Opposition to the idea from the Official Unionists was muted, possibly because they had expected worse.

The Alliance Party said the Government should have set up such a body 30 or 40 years ago. It welcomed the fact that there was no threat to the constitutional position of Northern Ireland.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, said he would wreck the proposals. "With firm confidence we will go forward, regardless of the consequences, to bring down this fresh attempt to hand us over to the enemy."

Sinn Féin said that the intergovernmental council "will not diminish British influence in Ireland" but will actually increase its influence in the 26 counties, where attempts will be made to smother the cross-border collaboration and the drive against republicanism.

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Peter Trivelp

Remembrance Day tomorrow will be a deeply reflective occasion for Mr Jack Pearce (above), of Chaddleworth, Berkshire, as it has been for the past 60 years. In 1921 Mr Pearce, who is 88, returned to his village near Newbury to find that because he had been given up for dead in the First World War, his name had been inscribed on the village war memorial.

Mr Pearce and his wife Ida, aged 85, live in a small thatched cottage 50 yards from the 20-foot high stone memorial. He does not know who inscribed his name there.

He was wounded in his first battle in which his brothers, Tom and Douglas, were killed. Jack recovered and was sent to the trenches again. He was wounded again, and returned to Britain.

As one of the few surviving Old Contemptibles in the area, he will take great pride tomorrow in marching to the memorial with those who know of him and his kind only through the history books.

Local councils had a far better chance of curbing expenditure, he said.

The heart of the Government's plan is a calculation by civil servants of each council's Grant Related Expenditure Assessment (GREA). Loosely based on population figures, it estimates a council's required spending on buses, housing, social workers, classroom chalk and so on. Intended originally as a guide, the GREA has become a necessity.

Mr Noel Hopworth, director of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, and a fairly disinterested witness, said yesterday that the GREAs were a flawed element in the system. They could shift in a volatile way and would need, soon, to be revised as the results of the 1981 census became available.

He predicted: "The whole system of local government as we have known it will soon start to collapse; not necessarily next year, but soon. When the Conservatives lose power you will find the multipliers they have built in being fiddled in a completely different way by other hands."

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The remarks by Lord Carrington, who has been visiting Saudi Arabia in his capacity as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the European Community, have provoked a sharp Israeli retort. Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, has said he would not allow European countries to take part in the Sinai peace-keeping force if they endorsed a plan which deviates from the Camp David accord.

British officials confirmed that the meeting between Mr Haig and Sir Nicholas had taken place, but emphasized that their discussions had dealt mainly with European participation in the Sinai peace-keeping force.

According to informed sources Mr Haig was at some pains to stress the adverse reaction in Israel caused by open backing of Saudi Arabia for the Sinai right-of-way plan. The United States has already come in for strong Israeli criticism as a result of recent statements by President Reagan and Mr Haig expressing interest in aspects of the Fald plan.

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## Tory rebels poised to vote against rates Bill

By David Walker

The Local Government Finance Bill, which will compel local authorities to hold referendums before levying rates above a ceiling to be fixed by the Government, was given a formal first reading in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment, faces opposition to the Bill not only from the Labour benches but from a group of about 20 dissenting Conservative backbenchers, who may be prepared to vote against it.

Their view, shared by almost all councils, is that the Bill represents an unwarranted interference by central government in local authority affairs, scripping them of their autonomy.

The operation of the scheme, intended to come into effect from April 1, 1982, depends on the margins of tolerance which Mr Heseltine will set. He indicated a press conference last night that only a small number of councils—more than 10 but less than 100—would be forced to hold referendums. The intention was to trap one of the constitutionally high-sounding councils.

Those councils are mostly Labour-run, city authorities; the Greater London Council; the Inner London Education Authority; most of the inner London boroughs; some of the metropolitan counties, such as South Yorkshire; and a handful of district councils.

Mr Heseltine said: "I have been engaged for two-and-a-half years as the first Secretary of State expected to reduce the levels of local authority current expenditure that have risen inexorably since 1950. I face up to the fact that the traditional relationship of cooperation (between councils and the government) no longer exists."

As Mr Heseltine was speaking, another Tory MP joined the backbench revolt. Mr Terence Higgins, MP for Worthing and a former Treasury minister, said: "The proposed extension of referendums into the field of taxation is unnecessary and a highly dangerous precedent. There is every case for restraining the powers of local councils, but referendums are not the right way to do it."

Mr Patrick Cormack, MP for Staffordshire, South West, who has already warned publicly that he may oppose the measure in the division lobbies, said in a speech in his constituency last night: "Even at this late stage, the Cabinet should think again and withdraw this extraordinary Bill."

His proposals are a non-agreeable combination of the Tory tradition in local government, and of the off-stated Tory belief that the gentleman in Whitehall does not know best. They amount to a massive centralisation of power of major constitutional significance. If implemented, they would kill local government as we know it and seriously weaken the whole democratic process."

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## US seeks deal on nuclear weapons

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 6

The United States plans to put forward what it regards as dramatic proposals on reducing nuclear forces in Europe when talks with the Soviet Union on medium-range missiles open in Geneva at the end of this month.

A decision on the proposals will be reached at a meeting of Nato's special consultative group in Brussels on November 20.

According to a senior Administration official, the American proposals, closely worked out with Nato partners, "will challenge the Russians to make substantial reductions in their theatre nuclear forces".

The first outline of what these proposals will involve has been made available to *The Times*. The United States will put forward proposals to the Soviet Union which will range from what is known as "the zero option" to the full deployment in Western Europe of 572 cruise and Pershing 2 missiles.

The official said the United States was entering the negotiations with the intention of achieving a substantial reduction in the number of intermediate range Soviet nuclear warheads ranged against Western Europe. In particular, the United States wants the Soviet Union to reduce to 300 or below the number of warheads carried on its SS20 missiles.

The Soviet Union is understood to have deployed at least 250 of the triple-warhead SS20s, giving Moscow a 75-warhead advantage over Western Europe. These are in addition to the older SS4 and SS5 missiles. It was the Soviet Union's deployment of SS20s which led to the December 1979 Nato decision to deploy the cruise and Pershing missiles, starting at the end of 1983.

Mr Reagan, who has been engaged for two-and-a-half years as the first Secretary of State expected to reduce the levels of local authority current expenditure that have risen inexorably since 1950. I face up to the fact that the traditional relationship of cooperation (between councils and the government) no longer exists."

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## More opposition faces Trudeau on constitution

From John Best, Ottawa, Nov 6

Having struck a deal with all the provinces except Quebec on bringing home Canada's constitution from Westminster, Mr. Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, today turned his attention to the problem of getting it through Canada's Parliament.

First indications were that passage will not be as quick and simple as the Prime Minister would like.

Mr. Trudeau scheduled meetings with both Mr. Joe Clark, the Conservative Opposition leader, and Mr. E. Broadbent, the leader of the New Democratic Party, to discuss a timetable for putting his revised constitutional package through the House.

But Mr. Clark had already made it clear that he is in no mood to expedite passage, especially in view of the "dark shadow" cast by French-speaking Quebec's rejection of the federal-provincial agreement.

Mr. René Lévesque, the Quebec Premier, angrily turned the package down when it was concluded yesterday, because in his view it diminishes his province's powers.

Mr. Clark told the Commons, after listening to Mr. Trudeau's announcement of the historic agreement calling for final patriation of the 1982 British North America Act, that his party would want to give the proposed settlement careful study.

The Tories might even have some amendments to put forward aimed at making the accord acceptable to Quebec, which has about a quarter of Canada's 24 million population, he said.

The agreement worked out yesterday, after four days of heated and often confusing negotiations between Mr. Trudeau and the 10 provincial premiers, involves a classic trade-off.

The federal government accepted the constitutional amendments formula advocated by the eight premiers — including Mr. Lévesque — who had opposed the original, unilateral federal plan for asking Westminster to turn over control of the Act.

In return, the Prime Minister got an entrenched charter of rights, something the group of eight had opposed. One of the main points on which Mr. Lévesque parted from the other first ministers is a provision guaranteeing minority language education rights across Canada.

Quebec, whose record in the field of minority rights is probably better than that of any English-speaking province, nevertheless objected because the provision would cut into provincial jurisdiction over education.

Mr. Broadbent supported the agreement in general terms, but some members of his caucus are opposing it because, among other things, protection of aboriginal rights for Indians and Eskimos has been dropped from the charter.

Relief in Commons  
While there could still be a few British MPs willing to make a challenge on behalf of Quebec and the "native Canadians", the general opinion among all parties at Westminster today was that the legislation needed in London will go through without much trouble George Clark writes.

Sir Anthony Kershaw, Conservative MP for Stroud and chairman of the Commons Select Committee which examined the legal implications of the move, said: "The agreement of nine of the provinces removes the fundamental objection which the House of Commons would have taken to the original proposals."

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## Papandreou receives a Turkish olive-branch

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Nov 6

Turkey today reciprocated the peace overtures made a week ago by Mr. Andreas Papandreou, the new socialist Prime Minister of Greece, when he sent the Turkish leaders a message of goodwill — an olive-branch, as he called it.

Mr. Papandreou announced today that he had received a message from Mr. Bulent Ulusu, the Turkish Prime Minister, which he called was "also an olive-branch."

"Without wishing to sound over optimistic, I believe that this may be the beginning of a new era in Greek-Turkish relations. What will follow will, I hope, vindicate this optimism," he said.

The content of the verbal messages exchanged between Athens and Ankara were not disclosed. However, his understanding that the two sides have agreed in principle to maintain a dialogue. Its nature remains to be defined.

A Greek-Turkish diplomatic dialogue has been in progress for several years but has produced no substantial results on the differences of the two Aegean countries.

After a meeting with Mr. Fahri Alacam, the Turkish Ambassador, Mr. Papandreou said that the aim of his initiative has been "to make the Aegean a sea of peace and of good-neighbourly relations". The response had been positive; he was optimistic despite the "great issues" that exist in the Aegean area.

The Socialist takeover in Greece was seen with some misgiving in Ankara. Throughout his election campaign Mr. Papandreou had openly treated Turkey as a potential enemy of Greece. After his victory he declared that Greece would pull out of NATO's military aid unless the United States guaranteed Greece against an attack by Turkey.

Ankara: Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, ended a visit to Turkey today during which he said that NATO countries were deeply concerned about securing a clear commitment to speedy restoration of democracy.

Sources said that Herr Genscher had emphasized that Turkey's recent severe measures against parliamentarians in West Germany and elsewhere, and had been assured of a commitment to an eventual return to democracy.

Turkey's military rulers passed a new law today stripping universities of administrative autonomy and handing academics over to students from political parties.

The law, drastically reshaping Turkey's higher education system, appeared in today's official gazette with immediate effect. It empowers the head of state to appoint university rectors, with freedom to choose non-academics. The move is seen in academic circles as entirely ending the universities' autonomous status. Until now rectors were elected by faculty members.

Before they seized power 14 months ago, the military men now ruling Turkey frequently criticized what they called the immersion of universities in politics.

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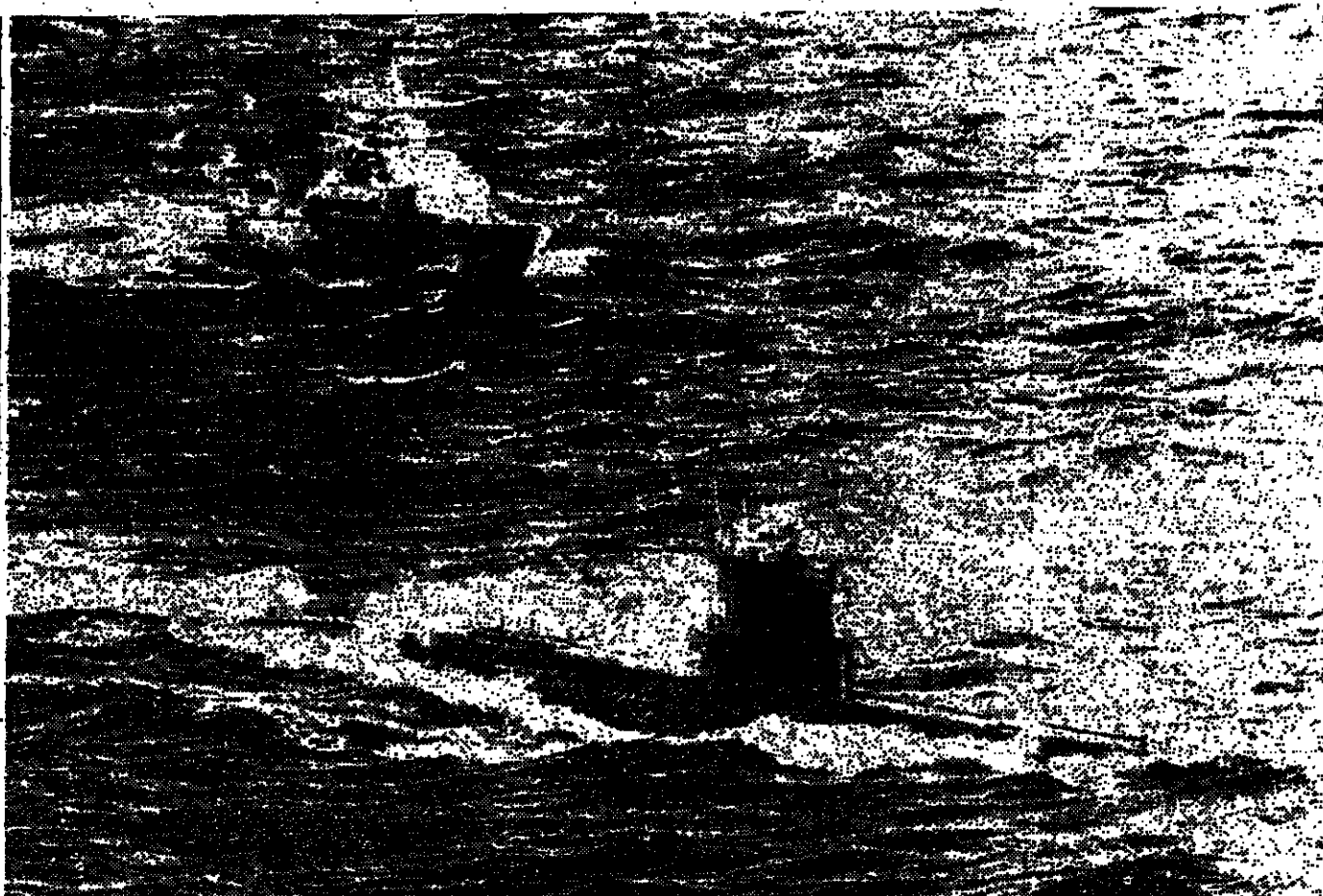
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Goodbye to all that: The Soviet submarine heads for international waters under escort by a Swedish naval vessel.

## Sweden says farewell

### Soviet submarine makes a public exit

From David Brown, Stockholm, Nov 6

Soviet submarine No 137 today sailed out of Swedish waters to be greeted by a flotilla of Russian vessels 20 miles south-west of the naval base at Karlskrona.

The Swedish authorities released the Soviet submarine after revealing yesterday that their tests showed the vessel almost certainly carried nuclear torpedoes. Swedish tugboats towed the 1,000-tonne submarine out of Sweden's southern waters at daybreak under an escort of mine-sweepers, patrol boats and helicopters with press boats in attendance.

After an hour, heavy seas forced the tug to release the submarine and it was allowed to sail out with an escort under its own power to international waters where Soviet vice-admiral Aleksei Kalinin was waiting aboard his destroyer.

Seven-hour interrogation  
Rough seas prevented the signature and exchange of documents to mark the formal handing over of the submarine. Instead, Swedish commander Rodrick Klutbo and the Soviet admiral exchanged signals to mark the end of the Soviet submarine's uninvited stay in restricted Swedish waters, which began on October 27. The submarine captain Vyacheslav Gushin, claimed the strayed into the area and went aground after a fault in his gyro-compass.

The Swedish authorities refused to accept this explanation and conducted a full investigation into what the submarine was doing in a military restricted area. The inquiry included a seven-hour interrogation of the Soviet captain and his navigation officer in the presence of Soviet diplomats aboard a Swedish minesweeper.

Swedish naval officers also inspected the navigation equipment aboard the boat.

Mr. Ulsten twice issued sternly worded protests to Moscow through Mr. Mikhail Yakovlev, the Swedish Ambassador, which accused the Soviet Union of flagrantly violating Swedish territory. The second protest, made yesterday, said the violation was all the more remarkable since in all probability the

submarine has carried nuclear weapons into Swedish territory. This revelation sent shock waves through neutral non-nuclear Sweden even greater than those produced by the discovery of the submarine in a sensitive area. The Swedes regard the incident as a cynical act by a superpower against a neutral country. In their eyes the Soviet Union has lost credibility in its peace overtures towards the Nordic area.

Its support for a Nordic nuclear-free zone is now seen as hypocrisy by most Swedes. Russian proposals to declare the Baltic a sea of peace are seen as a means of ensuring military superiority in the area.

The Soviet Union has been condemned by all political parties here and even the normally pro-Moscow Communist Party has voiced criticism. The Government has received widespread support for its firm handling of the affair though some would have preferred an even stronger line.

Mr. Olof Palme, leader of the Opposition Social Democratic Party, expressed his full support for the Government's stand yesterday. "There has been a united Swedish political front over the whole affair," he said.

Reaction to the incident in the Nordic area outside Sweden has been relatively muted. Unsurprisingly, Finnish newspapers, glancing over their shoulders at their big neighbour on the doorstep, confined themselves to reporting the incident without comment.

Madrid: The United States sharply criticized the Soviet Union over the submarine incident in the European security review conference here today (Reuters reports).

Mr. Max Kampelman, the United-States delegate, said the incident served as a reminder that the Soviet navy was global and far larger than needed for defence.

"This was a political matter and we reacted in a political way," Mr. Ulsten said when asked why the Government had not detained the crew, as the Russians would certainly have done in the same circumstances. Detention would not have been legal under Swedish law as the submarine had a certain amount of immunity. He explained that the crew or link their release with another issue would have been responding to a crime with another crime, he said.

Political mileage  
Early indications that the captain and crew would not be prosecuted and that force would not be used were criticized by many Swedes as bad tactics. However, the Swedish Government has got considerable political mileage out of the incident at the expense of Soviet embarrassment.

The Swedish Government feels it has at least denied the reputation of its Goliath-like neighbour across the Baltic. It has shown itself prepared to defend Swedish neutrality and its sovereignty. Government spokesmen have claimed.

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## American warmth cheers Moroccans

Rabat, Nov 6 — A strong United States military delegation led by Mr. Francis J. West Jr, the assistant defence secretary ended a three-day visit with a renewed assurance of American backing for Morocco in its war against the Marxist-led Polisario guerrilla movement.

A similar assurance was given by Mr. Joseph Verner Reed, the new American ambassador, in presenting his credentials to King Hassan in the mountain resort of Ifrane.

At Rabat airport, Mr. West emphasized the American view that Polisario's recent escalation of the war was likely to obstruct King Hassan's proposal for a cease-fire and a referendum among the disputed territory's 100,000 inhabitants.

The delegation, including two generals, went on a helicopter tour on Thursday of the desert battle zone where Moroccan forces have fought a costly war against the guerrillas for six years. The Polisario movement, backed by Algeria and Libya, is seeking the independence of the former Spanish Sahara territory annexed by Morocco in 1975.

Mr. West said the upsurge in the war gave "new and added urgency" to the group's visit to evaluate American military assistance needed.

The Moroccan Government has asked for additional American help to counter new, sophisticated Soviet-built Sam-6 missiles said to have destroyed four Moroccan aircraft and a helicopter last month. — AP.

## EXPULSIONS ORDERED BY BAGHDAD

By Habbiz Teimourian  
The Government of Iraq has expelled 1,200 Iraqis to Iran, according to Tehran radio, monitored in London.

The Iraqis said that the expelled included many women and children, three of whom had died while crossing a minefield at the border. The announcement did not give the religion or ethnic origins of those expelled, but the Kurdish town of Jananrud, the point at which they crossed the border, is far to the north of the traditional point of expulsion for Iraqi Shia Muslims of Iranian origin.

It is possible that most of the expelled are families of Iraqi Kurds who have reacted to the rebellion against the Government in Baghdad. Sixteen months ago Iraq expelled 16,000 Iraqi Shia Muslims of Iranian origin.

It was announced in Paris yesterday that the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran had formally joined a new national council of resistance recently set up by former President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr and Mr. Massud Rajavi, leader of the left-wing Mujahedin Khalq.

Dr Saeed Badal, a member of the central committee of the party who is visiting Western Europe said on the telephone from Paris that he had been conducting negotiations on behalf of his party with the leaders of the council and that the negotiations had been completely successful.

## Court of Appeal

### Guidance on admissibility of confessions

Regina v Rennie

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Mustill and Mr Justice McCullough

[Judgment delivered November 6]

Guidance to courts on applying the principle relating to the admissibility of confessions was given in a reserved judgment by the Court of Appeal when dismissing an appeal by Raymond Mitchell Rennie, of Kingston, Bedford, from conviction at Knightsbridge Crown Court (Judge Mendel) of conspiracy to defraud a pecuniary advantage by deception. He had been sentenced to nine months imprisonment.

Mr. David Walsh, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr. Henry Green for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the appellant's sincere, Jacqueline, pleaded guilty to 13 specimens counts of obtaining a pecuniary advantage by deception. He had been sentenced to nine months imprisonment.

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justice came to the conclusion that it was the strength of the case against the appellant which decided him to make the confession.

In the course of the summing up the judge dealt with the confession in detail and directed the jury that they had to make up their minds as to the essential thing was whether the appellant was telling the truth.

On appeal Mr. Walsh maintained that the confession should never have been before the jury since, in the face of Sergeant Don's evidence as to the motive behind the confession and the content of the preceding conversation, the judge could not properly have held that the confession was voluntary. Reliance was placed on DPP v Ping Lin (1975) AC 574.

His Lordship said that the argument of the appellant was that the confession should never have been before the jury since, in the face of Sergeant Don's evidence as to the motive behind the confession and the content of the preceding conversation, the judge could not properly have held that the confession was voluntary. Reliance was placed on DPP v Ping Lin (1975) AC 574.

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ably to the exclusion of a confession, nearly every confession would be rendered inadmissible.

That was not the law. In some cases, the hope of self-preservation generated. If so, it was irrelevant even if it provided the dominant motive for making the confession. In such a case, the confession would not have been obtained by anything said or done by a person in authority.

More commonly the presence of such a hope would, in part at least, owe its origin to something said or done by such a person. There could be few prisoners who were being firmly but fairly questioned in a police station to whom it did not occur that they might be able to bring their interrogation and their detention to an earlier end by confessing.

Their Lordships did not understand the speeches delivered in the House of Lords in DPP v Ping Lin to require the exclusion of such a confession. The essence of their Lordships' opinions in that case could be summarized as follows.

The law relating to the admissibility of confessions was much simpler than appeared to have been thought in the years immediately preceding 1975.

It was stated by Lord Sumner in *Brinkley v The King* (1914) AC 599, 605: "No statement of an accused is admissible in evidence against him unless it is shown by the prosecution to have been a voluntary statement in the sense that it had not been obtained from him either by fear of prejudice or hope of advantage exercised or held out by a person in authority, or, as had now to be added, by oppression."

It was unnecessary and undesirable to complicate that question by considerations of whether conduct was "improper" or constituted an "inducement". The sense and spirit of the principle were more important than the particular wording in which it was expressed. Above all, it was to be applied with common sense.

The person is able to get the flavour and effect of the circumstances in which the confession was made was the trial judge, and his findings of fact and reasoning were entitled to respect.

How was the principle to be applied in the present case, not only realized the strength of the evidence known to the police and the Crown, but was conscious at the same time, of the fact that it might well be advantageous to him, or at least to his family, in the present case, to someone close to him, if he confessed?

How, in particular, was the judge to approach the question when those different thoughts might all, to some extent at least, have been prompted by something said or done by a person in authority?

The answer would not be found from any refusal to apply the concept of causation nor from too detailed attention to any particular phrase on Lord Sumner's formulation. Although the question was for the judge, he should approach it much as would a jury were it for them. In other words, he should understand the principle and the spirit behind it and apply his common sense. Their Lordships would add, he should remind himself that "voluntary" in ordinary present use meant of one's own free will.

Applying the present case, their Lordships had to ask themselves whether it had been shown that the trial judge made a wrong assessment of the evidence before him or failed to apply the correct principle. It had not been shown.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

Where a victim was induced to sign and hand over a piece of paper not knowing that it was a cheque, the property in that cheque did not pass to the recipient and therefore remained in the property of the person who had induced him to sign it.

His Lordship said that the defence had submitted that unless

personally on November 24, 1969 at 64 Capel Road, Forest Gate, London.

Before Mr Justice Pugh  
[Judgment delivered November 6]

The Crown Court had jurisdiction under the provisions of section 8 of the Affiliation Proceedings Act 1957 (as amended) to hear an appeal by William Maher, of Canning Road, South Woodford, London from a decision of Barkings Justices made on November 27, 1969 adjourning him to be the putative father of a child born to the complainant on November 11, 1969.

Mr. Philip Shepherd for Mr. Maher, Mrs. Gower did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE PUGH said that the case was exceptional. The complainant had alleged that Mr. Maher was the father of her illegitimate child. The Barkings Justices had found her evidence credible and ordered him to pay £250 a week. Mr. Maher had not appeared in answer to the summons. A certificate of service had been produced certifying that the summons had been served

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## Divisional Court

### Challenging the certificate of service

Maher v Gower (formerly Kishinev)

Before Mr Justice Pugh

[Judgment delivered November 6]

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## Changing guard in Middle East

## Haddad resigns as leader of Christian militia

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 6

Major Saad Haddad, commander of the Israeli-backed Christian militia forces in southern Lebanon and self-proclaimed president of the buffer zone which runs along Israel's northern border, today announced his resignation in a broadcast on the local gospel radio station, the Voice of Hope.

The announcement took both the Israeli military establishment and some of Major Haddad's own men by surprise, although the resignation had been predicted last week by the Beirut newspaper *Al Nahar*, which warned that it would lead to Israeli annexation of the territory.

The report was denied by Israeli sources. Tonight, Israeli radio claimed that senior Israeli officers were trying to persuade the 44-year-old major to reconsider his decision.

No reason for the resignation was given but there have been recent rumours in southern Lebanon that the major was dissatisfied with restraints imposed on him by Israel under the terms of the cross-border ceasefire with the Palestinians which has been in effect since July 24.

There have also been doubts about the state of Major Haddad's health. He was taken to the intensive care ward of a hospital in the Israeli port of Haifa, in April, suffering from a mysterious illness which was never properly explained. The French language service of Israeli radio tonight quoted Major Haddad as having said in his resignation broadcast that his decision had mainly been taken for health reasons, and emphasised that he was nothing more than a soldier.

He thanked the Israeli Government for its assistance, and urged his officers to continue their task. The major remained incommunicado at his home in the south Lebanese town of Marjayoun and was not available to elaborate on the reasons for his announcement. It followed a private meeting yesterday with Christian and Muslim representatives from many of the villages in southern Lebanon.

Major Haddad named his successor as Lieutenant Sharbel Barakat, a young Beirut-trained Lebanese Army officer, who since last summer has been in charge of the western sector of the border enclave.

Little is known about Lieutenant Barakat outside southern Lebanon, but he was described to me by a senior United Nations source as a serious and responsible officer who had recently done much to reduce the harassment of United Nations peacekeeping troops by militiamen under his command.

In diplomatic circles, there was concern about whether the new commander would be able to exercise the same control over the heavily armed but haphazardly disciplined militia army as Major Haddad.

Beirut: Lebanese newspapers had predicted that Major Haddad would resort to a suicidal move to protest against Israeli land policies in southern Lebanon (Robert Fisk writes). "According to *Al Nahar*, Major Haddad was angered by an Israeli decision to fence off a small salient of land near the Lebanese-Israeli frontier, and had subsequently been criticised by southern Lebanese villagers for surrendering territory to the Israelis.

The Israelis came to admire Major Haddad for his determination to fight Palestinian guerrillas but to many people in West Beirut, he appeared to be little more than a puffoon, constantly threatening to shell Muslim towns north of the Litani river if his water supplies or electricity were cut off. He inspired terror among the south Lebanese who lived outside his enclave and who had to bear the brunt of his murderous artillery salvos. On Easter Sunday this year, his gunners killed 23 men and women in Sidon in reprisal for the death of two militiamen in a land mine explosion.

Exile's return: Mr Nadim Zaru, a former Palestinian mayor of Ramallah, returned to his home in the occupied West Bank from Jordan today, 12 years after being banished by the Israeli authorities for alleged subversive activities (Christopher Walker writes).

The decision to rescind Mr Zaru's deportation order was approved last month by Mr Ariel Sharon, the new Israeli Defence Minister. It is understood to be part of a policy to establish a conservative West Bank leadership to counterbalance the radical leadership which is outpoken in its support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Mr Zaru paid tribute to General Jaruzelski for agreeing to meet him as well as for readiness to discuss the subject of the union has raised. The summit, however, was not intended to be a peace conference.

The communiqué, signed by Mr Lech Walesa, comes after the tripartite summit last week which seems to have agreed only on the principles of seeking a national consensus to restore social peace.

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Desert captives: A rebel Chadian guerrilla guards government troops taken prisoner in recent fighting in Ouaddai province, Eastern Chad.

## Chad crowns Mitterrand's African success story

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 6

The Franco-African conference held in Paris this week, coupled with the announcement of the Libyan withdrawal from Chad, has undoubtedly produced diplomatic success for President Mitterrand.

All 20 heads of state participating in the two-day talks, six of whom were entertained to luncheon by him at the Elysee Palace yesterday, have expressed satisfaction with his approach to African problems and his advocacy of the cause of African countries at the Cancun "summit" last month.

They regard Colonel Gaddafi's surprise decision to evacuate his troops as being provoked by the impact on world opinion of the French President's appeal from the "summit" for the immediate despatch of a pan-African peace-keeping force to Chad.

The missives emanating from some of the "moderate" governments of French-speaking Africa over the coming to power of the Socialists in this country last summer have been dispelled. The condemnation of past French military interventions, the support for "liberation movements" and the proclaimed intention of "de-

colonizing" French aid expressed by M. Mitterrand and Socialist leaders before and just after the elections, have been forgiven.

But there is more to it than that. The French president, who has a personal experience of Africa and bonds of personal friendship of long-standing with African leaders like President Houphouët-Boigny, had no difficulty in finding the right manner and tone in speaking to them.

Lagos: The inter-African peace-keeping force for Chad could be installed by the beginning of next week, an informed source said here today (AFP reports). Chad's president Ouéddei arrived here from Paris to see Nigeria's President Shagari.

Many Christian Democrats are unhappy with Herr Kohl's uninspiring leadership and doubt his intellectual qualifications for the chancellorship. But by tacit accord the need for harmony was given priority.

Herr Kohl, who gave a dull performance at the last congress, dominated the scene. He told those who had disgraced him that they would do better to attend election rallies than give interviews.

The congress approved a final document supporting the Nato decision on medium-range missiles. Its most important foreign policy aim, it said, was balanced arms reduction and it reaffirmed its commitment to the United States and Nato.

IN BRIEF  
Far East agrees on news exchange  
Singapore—Delegates at the Kuala Lumpur meeting of the Organization of Asia-Pacific News Agencies have agreed to establish an Asian-Pacific news exchange (David Watts writes).

The delegates said the exchange was not intended to dislodge the big international news agencies, but would supplement their coverage.

Israeli air strike  
Tel Aviv.—Hundreds of people were stranded in Israel as the strike by El Al airline workers entered its second day. The strike began after the airline announced 18 flight engineers would be made redundant. Flights scheduled for tomorrow have been cancelled.

Judge wounded  
Santiago.—Extremists yesterday shot and wounded Señor Borquez Montero, the President of Chile's supreme court of justice. He was hit in the left shoulder.

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## Communists of Spain expel their rebels

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Nov 6

While Spain's ruling Centre Democratic Party took time off from its internal squabbling for "a pause for reflection," the executive committee of the Spanish Communist Party relentlessly pursued its purge here today of party members who sided with a breakaway faction of Basque Communists.

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, spoke about the pause for reflection in a brief remark to reporters as he left Parliament in Madrid last night. The reason for it is that the party is plagued by defections on both the right and left and an internal power struggle.

Meanwhile, the decision of Señor Roberto Lertxundi, the leader of the Basque Communist Party, to unite with the Revolutionary Nationalist Basque Left against the explicit instructions of the secretary-general of the Spanish Communist Party, prompted the PCE's executive committee to propose here this afternoon the expulsion of six members of the party's central committee who publicly sided with Señor Lertxundi.

The expulsion move followed the party's demand yesterday that all Communists holding public office who signed a document in favour of the Basque Left should resign from their posts.

Coup fear: Señor Felipe González, the leader of Spain's Socialist opposition, said today that a crisis in the ruling Centre Democratic Party could lead to a military coup last February (Richard Wigg writes from Madrid).

He told Spanish journalists that anti-democratic elements were emboldened by the split in the ruling party and were making comments that preceded a coup.

Army Plotters: Extreme right-wing Army officers are seeking to revive a clandestine organization, the "Spanish Military Union, to conspire against King Juan Carlos, who saved Spain's democracy from a military coup last February (Richard Wigg writes from Madrid).

While striving to avoid detection by military intelligence, these rightist officers are trying to create a network ready to attempt another coup when the country's political situation appears favourable, the sources say.

The seriousness of such a threat for democracy hardly needs underlining with the Government of Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo weakened by internal clashes of rival factions within the ruling Centre Democratic Party. The forthcoming trial of three senior generals, accused of participation in the February coup attempt, places further strain on the civilian administration.

The officers' idea of reviving the Spanish Military Union, formed chiefly by junior and middle-ranking Army officers opposed to the Republic after 1931.

Picasso tribute: As police sharpshooters watched on the roof of Madrid's Museum of Modern Art, King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia opened today a retrospective exhibition of 137 paintings by Picasso organized as homage to the country's greatest modern painter.

IN A REPORT FROM PARIS yesterday the seasonally adjusted figure for unemployment in France was given as 1,322,000. This should have read 1,822,000.

## Dissension grows in ranks of Solidarity

From Desza Trevisan, Warsaw, Nov 6

The Præsidium of Solidarity has assured the Polish authorities that it is ready to seek a compromise settlement during the coming talks with the Government. But it also insisted that the Government should be ready to make concessions.

The communiqué, signed by Mr Lech Walesa, comes after the tripartite summit last week which seems to have agreed only on the principles of seeking a national consensus to restore social peace.

Mr Walesa paid tribute to General Jaruzelski for agreeing to meet him as well as for readiness to discuss the subject of the union has raised. The summit, however, was not intended to be a peace conference.

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## Police move against Frankfurt protesters

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Nov 6

A second long cabin village erected by environmentalists trying to prevent the building of a third runway at Frankfurt airport was evacuated by police today.

The operation, which met with no resistance, followed a week of violent clashes between police and protesters at the clearing of the first village on Monday.

Sympathizers held demonstrations in several other West German cities, as the evacuees started building a second village.

While police were clearing the new village this morning, unknown attackers smashed the window of a Frankfurt savings bank and threw an incendiary device causing substantial damage. Another home-made bomb damaged the Austrian consulate-general.

Last night traffic in central Frankfurt was paralysed when some 54,000 demonstrators staged a march and sit-in outside the mayor's office.

The bitterness of the environmentalists and their sympathizers has mounted with repeated allegations of police brutality. Eye-witnesses said that injured demonstrators were beaten off the streets at first aid stations and there were reports of several cracked skulls.

The Association of Civic Action Groups spoke of "tear gas, anti-viet gas and truncheon orgies against children, pensioners and women which are unprecedented in the history of West Germany."

Kohl victory: Herr Helmut Kohl emerged from this week's Christian Democrat Party congress with his position as party chairman considerably strengthened.

Many Christian Democrats are unhappy with Herr Kohl's uninspiring leadership and doubt his intellectual qualifications for the chancellorship. But by tacit accord the need for harmony was given priority.

Herr Kohl, who gave a dull performance at the last congress, dominated the scene. He told those who had disgraced him that they would do better to attend election rallies than give interviews.

The congress approved a final document supporting the Nato decision on medium-range missiles. Its most important foreign policy aim, it said, was balanced arms reduction and it reaffirmed its commitment to the United States and Nato.

IN BRIEF  
Far East agrees on news exchange  
Singapore—Delegates at the Kuala Lumpur meeting of the Organization of Asia-Pacific News Agencies have agreed to establish an Asian-Pacific news exchange (David Watts writes).

The delegates said the exchange was not intended to dislodge the big international news agencies, but would supplement their coverage.

Israeli air strike  
Tel Aviv.—Hundreds of people were stranded in Israel as the strike by El Al airline workers entered its second day. The strike began after the airline announced 18 flight engineers would be made redundant. Flights scheduled for tomorrow have been cancelled.

Judge wounded  
Santiago.—Extremists yesterday shot and wounded Señor Borquez Montero, the President of Chile's supreme court of justice. He was hit in the left shoulder.

## Triple purge ordered

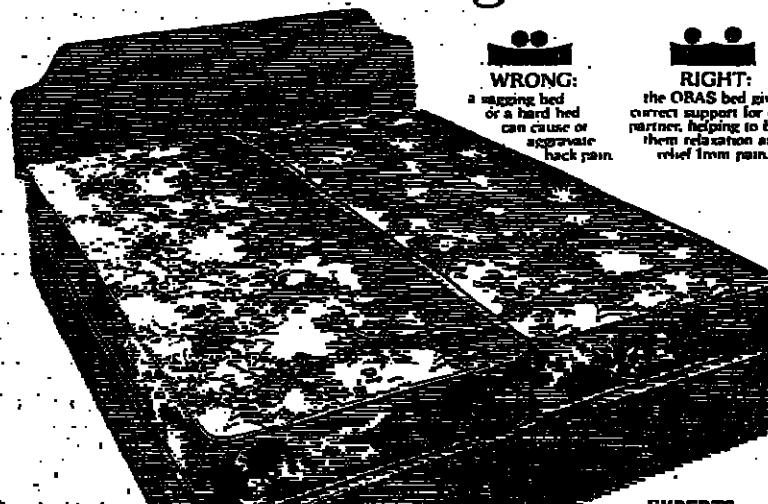
Maputo, Nov 6.—President Samora Machel has ordered purges of the Mozambique military, police and security services in an attempt to stop beatings and torture of civilians.

Mr Machel yesterday denounced "enemies disguised in the uniforms of the state" who "violate law and order" and made life "difficult for the people." He deplored cases of kidnapping from torture and rape to arbitrary arrest and confiscation of property.

The problems in the security forces were caused by a lack of "political consciousness." The President added that high standards set by the Frelimo (Mozambique Liberation Front) guerrillas during the bush war against the Portuguese had not been maintained since independence in 1975.

The speech, which was delivered in the presence of the Cabinet and broadcast nationally, appeared to be an extension of Mr Machel's two-year campaign against incompetence and corruption in all government departments—AFP.

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## Husain gives backing to Saudi peace plan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 6

King Husain of Jordan said today the eight-point Middle East peace plan proposed by Saudi Arabia was close to what his country had been advocating for many years.

The King, in a speech prepared for delivery at a World Affairs Council meeting in Los Angeles, said that Jordan had adhered with constancy to the principles of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 for a settlement. The speech was the King's only important public policy statement of his United States visit.

Prince Saud, the Saudi Foreign Minister, is reported to have said that his Government would seek a resolution at the United Nations endorsing the eight-point plan and then ask the Security Council to sponsor an international conference.

King Husain said: "When I addressed this council on April 6, 1976, I called for appropriate guarantees of all states in the area, including Israel, and for Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territory occupied since June 1967 as well as for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and their right to return to their homes or be compensated for their lost property."

He added that Jordan was prepared to pursue the course of peace with Israel on these terms: "We have been constant since 1967 in our adherence to Security Council Resolution 242,

as both we and the United States understood it at the time."

The King declared that the central issue was "and always had been the right of the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable right of self-determination, including the right to establish an independent state in Palestine if they so desired."

Meanwhile, American officials have said that a decision by King Husain of Jordan to buy surface-to-air missiles from the Soviet Union could complicate United States-Jordan arms relations. The weapons deal reportedly involving Sam 6 missiles, would be King Husain's first arms purchase in the Soviet Union. Hitherto, Jordan has looked to the United States and Britain for its defence equipment.

## Liberals expected to gain in Belgian elections

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 6

The larger political parties in Belgium stand to lose most in the general election on Sunday, according to the latest opinion polls. The right-wing Liberals, however, stand to make significant gains, and both the ecologists and the anti-tax party might be able to expect real representation in the next parliament.

The election, precipitated by the collapse of the last coalition government over economic policy, nevertheless does not seem capable of breaking the traditional stranglehold by the Flemish Social Christian Party on the government.

The Socialist Party in the French-speaking part of the country, which was responsible for breaking up the last government, has apparently lost only half a per cent of its support in the same period, and can expect 12.5 per cent of the vote. The Liberals, however, show an increase in support from 7 to 9.2 per cent.



# The illusion of town hall independence

by Alex Henney

Local government and its supporters are already angry about the Government's Local Government Finance Bill published yesterday.

Three main arguments are advanced in opposition to the Government's proposals to limit local spending, that they are unconstitutional, undemocratic, and that they centralise power. Despite the squeals from the local government lobby, the constitutional argument is weak. According to the 1835 case law concept of "ultra vires" a statutory corporation "exists merely for the purposes for which it is established by Act of Parliament, and it has no existence for any other purpose".

Ever since the Municipal Corporations Act 1835, the powers of local government have been legally subordinate to Parliament. The Departmental Committee on Local Taxation of 1914 reaffirmed this view, stating that local authorities "and their revenues are in fact the creation of Parliament and subject to its control, direct and indirect".

Reflecting its controlling power, central government has over the decades passed a series of acts that have added to local powers (slum clearance, education) taken away local powers (providing hospitals and water), and on occasion reorganised local government structure. Of particular significance, the current debate is that we have long looked to central

government to act as a check upon local government. The 1835 Act was intended partly to curb local corruption.

Subsequently, Parliament has imposed checks such as the District Audit Service, Planning Appeals, and the Education Inspectorate, all staffed by civil servants, and transferred rating valuation from local government to the Inland Revenue to curb local abuse. Most importantly it has imposed a variety of legal constraints upon how local government can finance itself, and dispose of assets.

The central power is consistent with how we regard our politics. Local councils have increasingly politicised along party lines, and the outcome of many local elections is decided not on local issues, but upon the popularity of the government of the day. The GLC Labour Party has taken matters further by including opposition to the national government as an election pledge.

It states that "mass opposition to Tory Government policies led by a Labour GLC could become the focal point of a national campaign against the cuts and for a general election". The politicization of local government may strengthen national parties, and may strengthen the influence of local government on its party at Westminster, but it has weakened local government and distanced it from its local electors.

We regard central government as responsible for the welfare state. Westminster politicians make election pledges to achieve programme targets — building houses, hospitals, schools, universities, etc. — regardless of whether the central government is the executor or not. Subsequently, ministers attempt to ensure that the programmes for which local authorities are responsible are implemented by a mixture of legislation, subsidies and persuasion.

Social pressure groups, such as Shelter and Mind, devote much of their efforts to effect change by attempting to influence central government to impose duties upon local authorities. It is consistent within our political traditions for ratepayers to look directly to central government to curb rates. We should not elevate what is in effect custom and practice into a constitutional matter, but rather argue the question of the wisdom of further central control pragmatically.

The argument that democracy will be lessened implies that local government is democratic and representative. Yet the 1967 "Committee on the Management of Local Government" commented that it "found no evidence to support the common belief that our local

government has some uniquely democratic content". The reason for this view is not difficult to find. Turnout at local elections in Britain averages only 40 per cent of the electorate (a far lower proportion than in other major European countries). And our voting system leads to gross misrepresentation. For example in the May 1981 GLC election the turnout was 44.4 per cent of the electorate. Labour obtained 41.8 per cent of the votes, (only 18.6 per cent of the electorate voted for it) but 53 per cent of the seats.

Like many councils the GLC has no credible mandate for unusual policies. In particular, as the Labour manifesto stated, its proposals at a 6p to 8p rate, the GLC clearly has no mandate for the recent supplementary rate (with ILEA) of 16.6p.

Local expenditure accounts for about a third of all public expenditure, some 16 per cent of the GNP, and central government grant pays for 53 per cent of local costs. Central government has curbed local capital spending, which it can control directly through existing powers, and it has been reduced over the past five years from £7,500 million (1975 survey prices). It has tried by persuasion and by reducing the exchequer grant to get local government to reduce current expenditure, but has failed. Current

expenditure and staffing are much the same now as they were six years ago, when Mr Crossland said "the party was over" and costs have been shifted on to ratepayers.

Yesterday's Bill proposes that from next year the Government will set a limit to the rate an authority can levy. If it wishes to rate above that level, then before June 1 it will have to specify how much it wants in a supplementary rate, and then put it to a referendum of the electorate before the end of June.

A referendum seems a most appropriate way of determining whether a council can pursue high spending policies. With a high poll it will be democratic. And most importantly it keeps the decision local. The proposals do not involve much growth of central power. Rather central government sets a trigger level, then if appropriate implements the will of local people.

The reason politicians object to referenda is that they deter unpopular measures and shift power from political parties to people. As the constitutional lawyer, Mr A. V. Dicey, commented of referenda, "every party which wishes to force its own will upon the electorate detests this particular reform".

The author is a management consultant and a former special adviser to the Department of the Environment.

Geoffrey Smith



Men at the centre of the American foreign policy controversy: Alexander Haig, Richard Allen and Casper Weinberger

## What a way to run a foreign policy

Washington

Once again this week the question has been presented in dramatic form: just who is running the American foreign policy? It had seemed recently that Mr Alexander Haig was recovering some of his authority as Secretary of State after his fall from grace at the time of the shooting of the President in April. His knowledge of international affairs is respected, he is considered to have made some excellent appointments at the State Department, and he is regarded as the principal advocate within the Administration of a moderate foreign policy. But now his vulnerability in the Washington jungle has again been made evident.

He has been undermined in a number of ways. The column that Mr Jack Anderson, of the Washington Post, had prepared suggesting that the President had lost confidence in his Secretary of State, was not in itself significant. It was Mr Haig's reaction that mattered. It has been difficult in Washington this week to find anyone willing to defend his telephone calls to Mr Anderson in the 'attempt to persuade him that the publication of such a column would not be justified. Mr Haig managed only to focus public attention on the allegation and, once again, to give the impression of a man who does not remain calm under pressure.

His well-publicised complaints that a senior White House official has been trying to discredit him may also have been ill-advised. They sounded querulous. They drew attention to the difficulty he has with colleagues and to the weakness of his position. But they were, in substance, accurate. The difficulty in Washington this week has not been to think of a White House official who has privately been disparaging the Secretary of State, but to decide which official Mr Haig had in mind.

The most obvious candidate is Mr Richard Allen, the National Security Adviser, even though there have been denials on both sides. Mr Allen may not have been running a campaign against Mr Haig, but he is well known for his slighting references to the Secretary of State.

Mr Haig has his critics, but Mr Allen has few friends. Washington is a place where there is a perpetual market in political reputations, and once a person's stock slides below a certain point it is difficult for him to recover. Mr Allen's stock is not high, and one hears the suggestion time and again that he should be replaced.

Yet that would not be enough to restore cohesion to the conduct of American foreign policy at a time when the Secretaries of State and Defence join in open combat before Senate committees. It was not surprising that Mr Casper Weinberger should wish on Thursday to dissociate himself from Mr Haig's assertion the previous day that there was a contingency plan for exploding a nuclear warhead as a demonstration to deter the Soviet Union from trying to overrun Western Europe in the event of a conventional attack. But there are ways in which a minister can take a different line from a cabinet colleague with the minimum fuss in public. Mr

Weinberger chose to do so with the maximum impact. He is close to the President and has been for many years, much closer than Mr Haig has ever been. In a battle for Mr Reagan's ear, all the smart money would be on Mr Weinberger.

This has naturally fed suspicions that, despite denials, Mr Haig is indeed on his way out. His abrasive manner does not suit Mr Reagan's style: the President does not like having to sort out conflicts between his subordinates. He prefers an atmosphere of consensus and harmony.

Mr Reagan is a President who is not experienced in international affairs and does not immerse himself in the conduct of foreign policy. He is not the man to be his own Secretary of State. His most trusted advisers — the White House triumvirate of Mr Ed Meese, Mr James Baker and Mr Michael Deaver — are also not experienced in international affairs and they also have the whole range of domestic policy to worry about. But they are not prepared simply to leave foreign policy to others.

Mr Allen does not rival Mr Haig's expertise, or his authority, in the way that some national security advisers have rivalled or, indeed, overshadowed their Secretary of State. It was always the intention of the Reagan administration that the national security adviser should play a secondary role, and Mr Allen has satisfied this requirement well enough.

Then there is Mr Weinberger, who is a force in the conduct of foreign policy just as he is successful in resisting Mr Haig's encroachments into the defence field — an effectiveness which Mr Weinberger has demonstrated once again this week. But as Secretary for Defence, Mr Weinberger cannot run American foreign policy. He can be an important player in the game, but no more.

The presence of other players need not prevent a strong Secretary of State, enjoying the confidence of the President, from imposing a reasonable cohesion. It could lead to a constructive dialogue. But Mr Haig does not enjoy a sufficient degree of confidence from Mr Reagan to make him secure in his role and, in any case, he is not a good team man.

So Mr Reagan now has some critical decisions to make. He could install another Secretary of State with whom he would have a closer natural rapport, in which case the most likely, but not necessarily the best choice would be Mr Weinberger. Or the President could concentrate on making things work better with Mr Haig. In which case he must follow through his declared intention to cut out the feuding in his team. This would not be as easy as it sounds. It may now be too late to give Mr Haig the necessary influence and authority to be an effective Secretary of State.

## Meg's fate: TV tycoons write off the viewers

On Wednesday, the eve of Bonfire Night, a furious blaze engulfed one of the most familiar sights on British television, that of the *Crossroads* motel. The agonizing cliff-hanger holding *Crossroads* 14 million viewers in suspense over this weekend is whether the owner of the motel, Meg Mortimer, has died in the blaze, or will be allowed to retire gracefully to distant shores.

These events are the climax of a "real life" plot which began on Monday, June 22, when the British public awoke to the startling revelation in the *Daily Mirror* that Meg's alter ego, Noel Gordon, star of ATV's long-running soap opera, had been sacked.

By early evening the event was high on the schedules of national television news. ATV had chosen not to renew the actress's contract and Charles Denton, the Director of programmes, became a hate figure to thousands of *Crossroads* fans. Next morning's popular press reacted with appropriate outrage.



Noel Gordon: will Meg live or die?

*Crossroads* is a much-maligned programme, being at the same time enormously popular and devastatingly criticized. It has been running for 16 years, attracting large audiences and appearing high in the ratings, even though it is transmitted on different days and at different times throughout the country.

In a scheduled slot which anticipates that the audience will dip in and out of items, as in the short items in news magazine programmes, *Crossroads* can boast that it holds its audience's full attention.

Critics of the programme are easy to find but hard to pin down; often they are vague about the specific aspects which offend their sensibilities. The most familiar response from critics within broadcasting is a swift retreat behind the barricades of professionalism, whence they imply that they are operating with different criteria from those of the ordinary viewer.

If pressed, they are apt to come up with quite simple points which could easily be improved by the injection of a bigger budget into the programme. It is well-known that *Crossroads* has a low budget, a very fast turnover and that production staff and performers work very hard, at great speed, to create three episodes a week. Soap operas do not rate highly in the hierarchy when funds are allocated.

One woman wrote: "I always have a feeling that someone has 'the knife' in *Crossroads* because it is so popular." Another writer admitted to being puzzled about the decision taken. "Surely the very fact of her popularity (Meg) and that of the programme is the only fact that counts. Why make changes to the format of a programme which has many, many times been proven to please the viewing audience, which I would have thought was the only opinion that counts."

Some letters were more indignant than upset: "I feel I must write and protest at the high-handed attitude of some television controllers. They seem to have forgotten that their job is to serve the public."

Actually, they have not forgotten at all, but television companies do seem to have difficulty in coming to terms with popular television. Time and again writers, producers, and performers create successful, popular programmes and then critics within their own industry shy away in horror as the programmes win popular acclaim.

What these critics seem to be saying is that they don't like the programmes they themselves make and, in effect, that they wish the rest of the television audience would not persist in wilfully watching them. But broadcasting institutions cannot continue to see themselves as some sort of arbiter *et cetera* for all their viewers.

The popularity of a programme like *Crossroads*, despite the unrelenting criticism it attracts, cannot be explained in terms of differences in professional or personal taste. The programme provokes a straightforward clash of cultures. What the critics are saying is: "This programme is not me and my cultural values."

What the fans are saying is: "I like this programme, and for the most part, it entertains me." The audience holds sheer entertainment value high on its list of priorities, yet the Rediffon legacy of the need for broadcasters to "educate, inform and entertain" seems to have left programme-makers with an

uneasy feeling about the status of entertainment and whose values it should reflect or represent.

Part of the wide appeal which *Crossroads* has for its audience is illustrated in the words of a compulsive viewer whom I interviewed: "It brings in every aspect of life, the poorer part and the rest, like *Coronation Street* as well. It does involve people getting drunk, having babies without being married and all this, that and the other. It is an everyday programme, you get involved in it. I mean, they have brought mugging into it because they're bringing everything into it that it is so good."

Perhaps conventional notions of popular entertainment should be reformulated and extended to include more coverage of serious issues, even if treated through day-to-day problems and experiences — the stuff of soap operas. *Crossroads* does communicate with its audience and manages to present social problems in an acceptable form. It would perhaps be more positive to try to understand why *Crossroads* can attract such allegiance from its audience while handling such topics.

Since the news of the sacking of Noel Gordon, ATV has been inundated with letters and telephone calls pleading that if Meg was to be written out of the serial, at least she should not have to die. Some of the letters suggested that any storyline which attempted to kill off the character would be terrible, since everyone now knew that the actress had been sacked.

An interesting dilemma now faces the programme controller and his producer, Jack Barton. If the character does die, then they will have carried out their original decision in the face of overwhelming public pressure and appeals. If we find that Meg is allowed to sail off happily into the sunset, however, they will be seen to have appeased their viewers by sparing her life.

Within the next few days we will know the fate of Meg Mortimer. Whether she lives or dies, the question she will leave behind concerns the accountability of television companies and broadcasters to their audience.

Meg's legacy is perhaps to mark the emergence of a form of audience power which should dispel for ever the myth of the passive viewer. This may be the phoenix that will rise from the ashes of the old *Crossroads* Motel.

Dorothy Hobson

The author is engaged in research at the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies at the University of Birmingham. Her book *Crossroads: Anatomy of a Soap Opera*, will be published by Eyre Methuen in Spring 1982.



Walking for pleasure — but too often nowadays there are hazards on the way

## Why we need a walkers' charter

Conservation weaknesses apart, the Wildlife and Countryside Bill, which soon becomes law, is a disappointment to walkers. They see it as a lost opportunity.

More people are walking for pleasure. One reason is our greater leisure time, and another the fact that it is so cheap: no costly equipment or special facilities required. Yet the walkers' domain is shrinking. The ever increasing numbers of cars have driven walkers off lanes that once were traffic-free and safe and on other byways they have to compete, unequally, with motor cyclists.

The Ridgeway, along the crest of the Berkshire Downs, is the most notorious example of this. When I last tried to walk it, it was a churned up morass and we had to leap into the hedge when a group of bikes came pounding and squealing by. We have had similar experiences recently on the Moorswys in Snowdonia and in Derbyshire where motor cyclists were conducting speed trials.

The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949 was supposed to have opened up most of upland Britain to the walker. In practice only a few national parks, such as the Peak District, and a few smaller county councils have really worked to get access agreements to open country. The Aran Ridge in Snowdonia is a prime example. Here are two and a half miles of official "open country", a superb ridge walk, but walkers have no access to it because agreement cannot be reached with farmers whose land lies on the lower slopes. The result is that many famous walks are grossly overcrowded.

Walking receives little official recognition and few or no grants. One would have hoped, therefore, that the Wildlife and Countryside Bill would have redressed the balance. Because it has not, I would hope that the new Ministry of the Environment, which they are given more rights to better access, less interference, will crystallize around demands for a walkers' charter which could form the basis of future legislation.

I have already put the idea

to the Ramblers' Association, who like it. Here are 10 points which I think should be part of a walkers' charter — perhaps *Times* readers could suggest others.

Local authorities should be under a statutory duty to keep public footpaths — like roads — free of obstructions at all times. At the moment walkers are often faced with barbed wire, fallen trees, old beds, dumps of rubbish, blocked ditches, broken bridges.

We need a simple, single procedure so that farmers can make short footpath diversions for short periods to avoid essential farming activities such as ploughing or running a bull with cattle. In return for this inconvenience to the walker, it should be illegal for the farmer to obstruct the free use of a footpath unless a clearly marked diversion is provided.

Walkers should have the legal right to walk freely over any "open country", moorland, woodland, or publicly owned land, and along the coast, except where the owner has applied for a specific restriction. This would reverse the present position whereby a walker has right of access only where national park authorities and county councils have negotiated an agreement. Under the charter, the onus would be on the landowner to prove that walkers' presence was dangerous or destructive; not on the walkers, or their representatives, to prove them harmless.

Every local authority should have a duty to survey footpaths in its area and arrange to extend them or add new ones. If any path has to be closed for any reason, the authority should have the duty to provide a comparable new one in the same locality.

Local authorities should carry out their existing duty

to mark all footpaths where they join roads. In addition, they should have a new obligation to way-mark any footpath where the route is not clear.

The Ordnance Survey should produce within three years an up to date footpath map for every area. In some areas existing maps are hopelessly out of date and in others there are no footpath maps at all.

Action should be taken to minimize noise on footpaths. A simple code of conduct like the Country Code, well publicized and freely available, might do a lot in the cause of good manners and consideration for others.

An enforceable code of practice should be introduced to stop footpaths, green lanes, or ridgeways, being destroyed by motor cyclists, or owners of ORRVs (off road recreational vehicles). Getting a Land Rover onto the summit of half Snowdonia's mountains might be heroic lunacy, but when it becomes a regular occurrence it spells disaster for walkers.

Local authorities should be obliged to consider how country lanes could be made safe once more for walkers. This would be particularly welcome where short lanes could be linked with footpaths to provide an attractive pedestrian route.

Every local authority should appoint a footpaths officer to inspect paths in its area, offer advice and help to walkers and landowners alike, and organize local volunteers to maintain and improve paths and report infringements of the walkers' charter.

No doubt many walkers will feel these suggestions do not go far enough; on the other hand many farmers and landowners may feel they go too far. I hope, though, that farmers will not oppose a walkers' charter because of the sins of the careless and inconsiderate minority. Perhaps walkers, as a *quid pro quo* for the farmers' cooperation, could offer a strengthened and enforceable Country Code for which farmers might like to make suggestions.

Andrew Bennett

The author is Labour MP for Stockport North.

## Taking the long and private road to Clevedon pier

Clevedon Pier on the Bristol Channel — according to the Victorian Society, "undoubtedly the most graceful pier in the country" — has changed hands yesterday. Woodspring District Council leased it for five years at a peppercorn rent to the Clevedon Pier Trust Ltd, a company set up to restore this romantic but decaying structure to its former glory.

In returning Clevedon's noble pier to the "private", or at least voluntary, sector, Woodspring is in effect reversing what a prominent local landowner, Sir Arthur Elton of Clevedon Court, did 90 years ago. As chief shareholder of the original pier company, he gave the pier to the Clevedon Local Board. Even then it was never the money-spinner it is now: motorists hoped that was why they were keen to dispose of it.

Though beautiful in silhouette at a distance, it is closed, derelict, and dangerous. The pier, which spans two whole miles, collapsed into the sea in 1974 when Woodspring's predecessor council were load-testing it for insurance purposes.

Clevedon's public opinion was, and still is, strongly in favour of restoring and using the pier. Councillors were not so sure. Their uncertainty coincided with the hiatus of local government reorganization, and for five years the local authority did little or no maintenance on this Grade II starred "listed building". Then in 1979 Woodspring decided to seek consent for its demolition.

There were objections, of course, and as the ensuing public inquiry unfolded, the Pier Preservation Trust, supported by a technical group, convinced the inspector that "this exceptionally important building" with its "unique and delicate design" — it uses sections of Barlow rail, designed for Brunel's Great

Western Railway, as its horizontal members — should be preserved. They should, the inspector concluded, be given a chance "to work out and implement their proposals in detail".

So that is what the new pier company is doing, led by a board that includes two architects, a surveyor, a builder, and Lady Elton, widow of Sir Arthur's great-grandson, whose unique collection of industrial prints and documents is now at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum. The task is no light one. Estimates of the cost of restoration given at the inquiry ranged between £750,000 and £1m. Clevedon's will to keep its pier found concrete expression in an appeal fund, launched in 1974, which raised some £70,000.

The new company's directors are confident and determined. Apart from their collective expertise, they have a number of factors in their favour. First, Woodspring council has agreed to contribute towards the restoration

the sum — around £170,000 — which it would have otherwise had to spend on demolition. Second, an elegantly produced but pitifully written book by one of their number, architect Keith Mallory, is bringing national support and may strengthen their hand in negotiations with such potential sources of funds as the National Heritage Memorial Fund and the Historic Buildings Council.

Mrs Jennifer Jenkins, chairman of the HBC, is sympathetic. She and her colleagues have no funds for piers this year, she says, but as soon as they have, Clevedon's will have priority.

A first step, already undertaken before the formal completion of the lease, was to obtain planning permission to provide a comparable public toilethouse with a refreshment stall alongside the pier, which would lend a modest extra boost to finances.

Much of the work in the five-year restoration project could be undertaken by job

creation labour, and the directors have been discussing this possibility with the Manpower Services Commission. MSC grants could be a crucial component of that daunting £1m.

Once the pier is restored, the aim is to make it self-financing, earning enough money to pay for maintenance. Events like dances and wedding receptions will boost income as the trust promotes the pier as the place to hold a party and it becomes once more the social asset it was in its heyday.

One director, Michael Allman, thinks that despite the continuing threat of storm damage and corroding ironwork, the pier is already saved. Public opinion, he believes, has "turned a corner".

Despite the recession, the loss of this, the prettiest pier in England, is now unthinkable.

Tony Aldous

\*Clevedon Pier by Keith Mallory (Redcliffe Press, £6.50).



Clevedon pier in 1890





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## ANGLO-IRISH HARVEST

Dr FitzGerald has not been handed the opportunity (nor is it in his political style to manufacture it) that Mr Haughey was given, or took, a year ago to rouse exaggerated expectations in the Republic and thereby exaggerated fears in the North of Ireland. Yesterday's ceremonies were something of a harvest festival to put on display the fruits of the joint Anglo-Irish studies of the past year. As befits such an occasion concord and peace reigned and the two principals engaged together in the political equivalent of prayer.

The sample fruits themselves look rather meagre. In the matter of bringing to justice terrorists who flee the jurisdiction the two sides have got no further than putting their attorneys-general on to the problem together, although it has been a running sore for years, which the Republic's Criminal Law Jurisdiction Act has done little to mend. Nothing would do so much to sweeten the Republic in the nostrils of unionists, which is Dr FitzGerald's declared ambition to promote, than the extradition by the courts of his country of criminals wanted in the North for crimes of terrorism. Even in the field of energy, where the lines of cooperation are most obvious and the subject matter most concrete, things are still at the stage of consideration, study or negotiation.

Working arrangements between the two governments are to be dignified and decorated by an Anglo-Irish inter-governmental council, a framework for the already regular meetings of ministers

and officials. This is not as much as Dublin would have liked, for it does not mesh Northern Ireland into the machinery. The question of a parliamentary element in the Anglo-Irish council, to which they attach great importance in Dublin, is being committed to the two parliaments for consideration.

Mrs Thatcher's gradualism is sensible. There are practical difficulties in a parliamentary element inclusive of Northern Ireland. There is no provincial parliament at present. Representation of the nationalist community of Ulster at Westminster runs to Mr Gerard Fitt, an admirable but now eccentric representative, and Mr Owen Carron, only one of the objections to whom is that Dr FitzGerald will not meet him. If the net is spread as far as Strasbourg only one more nationalist is brought in, Mr John Hume, along with Dr Paisley who would as soon sit in a consistory at Rome.

But the chief reason for not rushing ahead with a parliamentary component is that the elected representatives of Ulster unionism, the largest political constituent in the province and the one whose attitude the new council is intended to affect, are unlikely to agree to have anything to do with it until they can be confident that it is not part of a process of sapping away at the constitutional position of Northern Ireland.

The two prime ministers offered them some joint assurance by reiterating what is essentially the position reached at Sunningdale in

1973: the Taoiseach affirmed his country's ambition to secure "the unity of Ireland in agreement and in peace", and agreed with the proposition that any change would require the consent of the majority of the people of Northern Ireland; the Prime Minister affirmed the necessity for that consent precedent to any change, and added that were it to be forthcoming through the procedure laid down in the Constitution Act of 1973 the British Government would accept the decision and support legislation to give effect to it. On the merits of the issue she remained non-committal. She did not give Ulster unionists that gentle push that Dublin asks of the British Government and the Labour Party here is now ready to administer. Nor on the other hand did she display any particular enthusiasm for the union. The words of the communiqué offer the correct assurances. But those words have not now the potency to banish unionist suspicions, only evidence of will can do that.

Yesterday's meeting leaves the "Irish question" where it was, and it must be said, where it is likely to remain while. But it has enlarged the two prime ministers' understanding of each other and adrozed the already good working relations between the two governments and their officials. That in itself is a good day's work, and the symbolism as well as the kindness of the Taoiseach's visit to the bedside of the wounded Irish Guardsman is more eloquent than any communiqué.

## Local government spending curbs

From Professor G. W. Jones and Professor J. D. Stewart  
Sir, The Government is proposing a major constitutional change to meet an alleged problem of local government overspending in a particular year: the introduction of referendums as part of the process of budget-making in certain local authorities defined by criteria laid down by the Secretary of State. He has indicated that those powers will be used against only a few authorities who are spending well above his own view of what their expenditure should be.

It has been calculated that if the level at which a referendum was introduced were 40 per cent above present grant-related expenditure fewer than 20 major local authorities would be involved.

Apart from the grave constitutional objections that can be laid against the proposal, so well set out in your editorial of August 26 and September 26, it fails to achieve its stated purpose of controlling what the Secretary of State chooses to call over-spending by local government.

The alleged excess expenditure over any likely referendum level of those twenty authorities would go nowhere, near the level of expenditure reduction he currently seeks, even if every one voted No in the referendum, and American experience suggests that some Yes votes are likely.

However, there will be another important effect. The Secretary of State has yet to learn that whatever targets may be set above the target, they encourage those under the target to come closer to the target. It becomes a norm. The vast majority of local authorities well below the referendum level will thus be encouraged to maintain or increase their expenditure.

The Secretary of State also proposes to allow some authorities whose electors at the referendum reject the supplementary rates, to borrow to meet their current expenditure commitments. He will thus support deficit financing in local government, which will be inflationary, increasing aggregate demand and the public sector borrowing requirement.

The Secretary of State is therefore forging an instrument which will not give him the results he wishes to achieve. He will be driven either to further change or to using the new instrument in ways that he has not even considered.

Just one year after the Local Government Planning and Land Act, the Secretary of State proposes further major legislation. We fear that next year he will have to recognise the failure of this new Act and prepare yet further hasty change in an area which cries out for stability. The answer lies not in continual panic ad hocery but in a fundamental change in the basis of local government finance. Until that is done there should be a moratorium on further change. Otherwise the Secretary of State will only make the situation worse for himself and for his Government.

Yours faithfully,  
G. W. JONES,  
Professor of Government,  
London School of Economics and Political Science,  
(University of London),  
Houghton Street, WC2.

J. D. STEWART,  
Professor of Local Government,  
Institute of Local Government Studies,  
University of Birmingham.

## Spying denial

From Mr Michael Straight  
Sir, In *The Times* (November 2) I am referred to as "an American who had spied for the Russians". This statement is simply not true.

I am an undergraduate at Cambridge. I was approached by Professor Hunt in 1957. It was his hope that I would provide economic appraisals from the vantage point of a Wall Street office house. I declined to do that.

During the brief period in which I was employed by the United States Government I did give my own appraisals of the political situation in the Soviet Union, which I called "Michael Green". They were based exclusively on my reading of newspapers and magazines, and they included a denunciation of the New Soviet Pact.

I did not seek, nor was I given access to any sensitive information. I did not provide any such information to Mr Green or to anyone else.

I went on my own initiative to the FBI in late 1963. As you note, I subsequently met on many occasions with British intelligence officers. I told them all that I knew.

Yours truly,  
MICHAEL STRAIGHT,  
5910 Bradley Boulevard,  
Bethesda,  
Maryland 20814,  
United States.  
November 3.

## Burdens and benefits

From Mr P. E. Taylor  
Sir, Your leading article "Burdens and benefits" (October 29), contains a not unexpected side reference to "public bureaucracy and the public monopoly of planning and over-rewards".

And this from a newspaper journalist. Does your hypocrisy know no bounds?

Yours, etc.,  
P. E. TAYLOR,  
70 Haselworth Drive,  
Gosport,  
Hampshire.  
October 29.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Unresolved issues in Dr Arthur's case

From Professor J. K. Mason

Sir, It is perhaps dangerous to discuss the implications of a major case on the basis only of press reports. Nevertheless, within these limitations, the trial of Dr Arthur seems to have been unwavering.

A conviction for murder or attempted murder surely implies some evil intent and this is an allegation which nobody could conceivably hold against Dr Arthur: on the count alone the verdict could never have been reached. Further, the original charge of murder, carrying with it an obligatory life sentence in the event of conviction, forced the accused to defend himself rather than his principles — a course which was probably available to Mr Bourne in 1959, when he tested the Infant Life (Preservation) Act in performing an abortion. The trial has, therefore, done nothing to establish what is the public attitude to this facet of current medical practice.

There can be little doubt, however, that neglect of care leading to the death of someone to whom one has a duty of care would, in certain circumstances, come within the compass of culpable homicide. What was needed, and what could have been

decided in a trial for manslaughter, was an indication as to whether a doctor acting in good faith, as was Dr Arthur, is covered legally by what is effectively the doctrine of necessity. Do we, as a society, consider a "fruitless" life to be worse than no life at all and, if we do, are we happy to leave the definition of "fruitless" to individuals?

The medical "establishment" is clearly in favour of keeping the courts out of individual decisions in the "letting die" situation and this is surely right. But the requirement is for a clear legal direction as to the underlying and general propriety of taking such a decision. The incomprehensible policy decision to charge Dr Arthur with murder, rather than with a lesser offence which, in the event of conviction, would have attracted discretionary sentencing, has deprived us of such guidance. Presumably, someone will have to go through the whole thing again in the not too distant future.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
J. K. MASON,  
Professor of Forensic Medicine,  
University of Edinburgh Medical School,  
Teuch Place,  
Edinburgh.

### Christians and the bomb

From Mr Walter Stein

Sir, Your editorial of October 24 performs an important service in considering Christian arguments for viewing a just nuclear war as a self-defence. One might add that these Christian perceptions remain at the roots of all civilized norms of defence in Western traditions.

The definitive relevant crux, here, is the immunity of non-combatants from military attack, even in a war wholly justified in the ends it sets out to defend. For such ends must include the rights of innocent lives to be unconditionally respected. Any deliberate attack on such lives therefore belongs not to lawful killing in a justifiable act of war but simply to the criminal category of murder.

The nuclear deterrence system depends upon declared, and carefully promoted, intentions to annihilate millions of innocent lives in certain circumstances. The whole chain of command, from the Government to the humblest agent in nuclear deterrent activities, depends upon the willingness to commit such genocide if all else fails. Thus our society, in so far as it condones this state of affairs, is here and now condoning mass murder.

The fact that not each and every nuclear weapon, and not all types of nuclear strikes, are necessarily aimed at such masses of innocent humans, does not at all alter the fact that the whole system rests, and necessarily rests, upon the ultimate open-eyed threat of "assured destruction" of millions

and millions of dwellers on our globe. This unparalleled murderous intent is the foundation of all "deterrence" strategy. Who dares to say that the collection of cities we hold as hostages, lest the deterrent break down, are candidates for execution in the name of Christian values?

It is, however, a grave error to conclude that such perceptions nevertheless leave open a moral option to retain a deterrent designed (among other things) to prevent the actual outbreak of such a war. Not only is it increasingly hazardous, as the arms race proceeds, to put our trust in this technological pragmatism to avert off catastrophe. History's recorded enormities justify the most shameful horrors by "reasons of state" — striving to press calculations of sheer expediency beyond any calculus open to human beings — have still not sufficed to teach us their lesson. The salutary reminders of your editorial are apparently undercut by its conclusion.

"Moral conviction may dictate the objectives of policy, but it is no guarantee of sound political judgment and no substitute for an understanding of power politics in the present." Do sound political judgment and an understanding of power politics, condone our present condonation of the execution of cities under certain conditions?

Yours sincerely,  
WALTER STEIN,  
148 Curly Hill,  
Middleton,  
Ilkley, West Yorkshire.

### Historic interview

From Lady Mosley

Sir, Perhaps you will allow me to say why I am so anxious that the transcript of my late husband's interview with the 18 Advisory Committee in 1940 should be made available to his eldest son, my stepson, Lord Ravensdale, who is writing a memoir of his father. He has been told it will be available only after 100 years.

My husband and I were arrested in the summer of 1940 at a moment of general panic. All our possessions were searched, safes broken open and so forth. I welcomed it at the time, as I thought it would ensure our early release. I had four young children, the youngest 18 months old on the day of my arrest.

Months and then years went by, and we remained in prison. As we had not been charged with an offence we were denied the luxury of a trial. Instead, there was an advisory committee, chaired by Norman Birkett, KC. It was held in camera. He questioned Mosley for 16 hours, and at the end Mosley asked him if he might put a question to him. It was suggested that if the Germans invaded we should help them in some way? To which Birkett replied: "Sir Oswald, you can put any such idea right out of your head."

"For other words I am in prison for having advocated a negotiated peace, while Britain and the Empire are intact?"

"Yes," was the reply.

The exchange was repeated in the House of Commons by R. R. Stokes, MP, (December 20, 1940). Mosley had openly campaigned for a negotiated peace. He had spoken, at many meetings and

published his views in his paper, *Action*. Everything he did was in the open and no secret from anyone. As Lloyd George once said: "Is every politician who opposes a war during its progress a traitor?" If so, Chatham was a traitor, and Burke and Fox."

As we were held in silent prison for several years, there is no doubt that many of our fellow countrymen thought we had done something dishonourable. We were finally released and put under house arrest in November, 1943, because my husband was gravely ill with phlebitis. He had lost four stone in weight and gave the doctors a fright.

The disaster of war, 1939-45, was ghastly. The dead numbered many millions. Nevertheless 100 years is too long to allow injustice to fester for Mosley's family.

My husband's peace campaign was during the "phoney war". When the real war began he published this message in *Action*: "According to the press stories concerning the invasion of Britain are being circulated. In such an event every member of British Union would be at the disposal of the nation. Every one of us would resist the foreign invader with all his might. In such a situation no doubt exists concerning the attitude of British Union (May 9, 1940)."

A fortnight after these words were published *habeas corpus* was suspended and Mosley was arrested, and my sons and stepsons would welcome the light shed in this murky corner.

Yours faithfully,  
DIANA MOSLEY,  
1 rue des Lacs,  
91400 Orsay,  
Essonne,  
France.  
November 4.

### Unification Church

From Professor R. V. Jones, FRS

Sir, According to your columns of November 3, Mr Tim Brinton has named me in Parliament as being expected to attend the International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences in Seoul later this month. "Based on information supplied by Mr (Casey) McCann".

Not only am I not going this year but I declined to go to the two previous conferences, as Mr McCann should have known, for my refusal of the invitations, including that for this year, was fairly widely reported in the press. More than two years ago I wrote to Mr McCann, telling him that much as I valued the excellent conferences organized by his International Cultural Foundation I could not attend any more so long as the American component of the Unification Church continued to persuade British students to break off their university careers, causing inconvenience to universities and pain to parents, as well as prejudicing their own futures.

Although several students have returned to Britain as a result of my intervention, the position is still unsatisfactory. It is, however, regrettable — if your report is

correct — that Mr McCann in his understandable anxiety to see further students return should be so heedless of the facts as to have had pilloried in Parliament those whose quieter and less "orchestrated" efforts have perhaps been less unsuccessful than his own.

Yours faithfully,  
R. V. JONES,  
as from 8 Queens Terrace,  
Aberdeen.

### Point of precedence

From Mrs Margaret Lane

Sir, Now that the expectation of a Wales baby has been announced, and before the birth while we are still ignorant of whether it will be a boy or a girl I suggest it is time to amend the laws of inheritance in accordance with today's climate and equal opportunities legislation. The firstborn ought to be sovereign irrespective of sex; it is only fair, and after all, in our history, queens have made just as good a job as kings of ruling — if not better.

Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET LANE  
5 Cavendish Gardens,  
Sneyd Park,  
Bristol.  
November 5.

### Iranian Studies decision

From Dr F. R. Allchin, FBA

Sir, Of course the Cambridge Oriental Faculty slipped up (*The Times*, October 24) — they underestimated the number of their colleagues who would vote for any cause, so long as they had no responsibility for its implementation. But is not *The Times* slipping too?

It is common knowledge in these parts that the members of our Faculty Board are Fascist Beasts, and doubtless they are happy to receive the further accolade of Stalinists. It is less widely known that the faculty office contains a cupboard housing a variety of oriental instruments of torture. These we use to discipline any unruly younger members who have the temerity to hold views differing from our own. Nor is it generally appreciated that we have a number of sinister resorts in the remotest corners of the Orient, to which we are wont to banish these young puppets (or rather, we did banish them until the university suspended the Travelling Expenses Fund).

Equally we accept that we are incorrigible Philistines, having in our midst such dubious characters as the President of the Pali Text Society, and (mirabile dictu) a founder trustee of the Ancient India and Iran Trust, recently set up to provide independent support for Indian and Iranian language, historical and archaeological research in the face of their longstanding neglect by almost everyone else!

We do from time to time learn of events in the world outside and we try to respond to them. Our decision about the future of Iranian Studies was not made hastily in the panic of current financial pressures. Rather it was part of a carefully planned policy. There is a national demand for speakers of certain languages (Arabic, Chinese and Japanese, for example) which expresses itself, among other ways, in the numbers of young people who apply to read them.

We flatter ourselves that our courses have educational value, not least because we are trying to integrate the contributions of groups of teachers to provide breadth and balance. We believe that for undergraduates such courses are to be preferred to exposure to a single teacher, no matter how eminent, throughout all of three years. Thus we aim to provide our students with a sound basis for a career outside the university or for further specialization.

Like every other university and department or faculty we are faced by the unpalatable facts of life: if we are to make good use of scarce resources we have to decide on priorities, and some things will have to go. But, Sir, it is surely churlish to suggest, as did your intemperate and unhelpful leader, that anyone of us can agree to delete a subject from our Tripos with other than profound regret, even a subject which has only produced, according to our records, two graduates in the past 10 years! Therefore we stand by our decision.

Yours faithfully,  
F. R. ALLCHIN,  
Faculty of Oriental Studies,  
Sidgwick Avenue,  
Cambridge.  
November 3.

### Crumbs from the table?

From Mr Michael R. Bond  
Sir, You report (November 4) that the sum charged by Mrs Thatcher for her pre-Queen's Speech dinner (the £23.50) is the sum paid for a week's work on a Government special employment scheme?

I also find it barely credible that those who spend more on an evening meal than most of us spend on our family's food for a week can believe that it is our pay levels which are the cause of the country's economic plight.

On this date I am drawn to the conclusion that Guy Fawkes had the right idea.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL R. BOND,  
5 Church Road,  
Newton Abbot,  
South Devon.  
November 5.

### A sound of fairness

From Mr Philip Goldenberg  
Sir, I entirely agree with Professor Norman MacKenzie (November 2) that the term "proportional representation" is decidedly ungainly. Even less gainly, however, is the full title of the best system, namely "proportional-representation-by-the-single-transferable-vote-in-multi-member-constituencies".

Hence the adoption by electoral reformers of the expression "SuperVote", implying (rightly) a vote which gives not only proportionality between political parties but also power to the electors to choose between different candidates of the same party.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP GOLDBERG,  
"White Trees",  
White Rose Lane,  
Woking,  
Surrey.  
November 3.

### Taken in vain

From Mr Robert Robinson  
Sir, The Rev W. T. Armstrong (October 31) criticises my use of the word "theological" to characterise a discussion of whether "dog's breakfast" or "dog's dinner" is the correct expression.

The adjective seemed the right one, since the distinction is immaterial.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT ROBINSON,  
18 Cheyne Row, SW3.  
October 31.

## NO WAY TO POLICE THE PARISH PUMP

In rushing out the Local Government Finance Bill within three days of the start of the session, Mr Heseltine has boldly put its opponents in his own party on the spot. It was one thing for them to press to change the unformed basis of a Bill not yet published, but it will be another matter to abstain or vote against it now.

A referendum may superficially seem admirably democratic. Councils wishing to raise more in rates than the limit prescribed on the basis of the machinery created by the 1980 Act would have to ask the consent of their electors before levying a supplementary rate. To concentrate voters' minds, the Government would be able to stipulate that the disenfranchised business ratepayer should pay less than his usual share of the supplementary rate, or even nothing at all. The Government calculates, no doubt correctly, that in most cases the electors will reject the council's appeal, thus forcing it to limit its spending to what Whitehall might sanction.

It is doubtful whether the plan will achieve the Government's declared aim to "constrain the overall level of local authority expenditure". The ceiling on initial demands will have to be set fairly high if the wayward assessment

machinery is not to penalize many inoffensive Tory councils. All councils will be tempted to spend right up to a ceiling which can be claimed to have official approval. The few councils which defiantly spend far beyond the levels that Governments have recommended will be turned into platforms for local politicians effectively freed from financial responsibility and only too eager to blame the Government for all shortcomings in local services.

Councillors' accountability to the ratepayers for how their money is spent is the essential factor in our system of local government. A referendum seeking to deny a council the resources to carry out a programme it may have been elected to fulfil only a few months before will tend to vitiate that local responsibility. In the urgency of its need to reassert control of the economy, the Government is allowing itself to be drawn into a misconceived constitutional attack on local government. Much public spending is in the local sector, and most councils have responded willingly to progressively more extreme demands for cuts. The extravagances of the few exceptions harshly affect their ratepayers, who will have their chance in time to make their comment at the polls. But the sum collected in rates has no effect at all on the money supply and the public borrowing requirement, the primary areas of the Government's justified concern to regain control of the economy.

## WHEN LOVE CONGEALS

The Scottish Law Commission has taken a bold stab at trying to resolve the irreconcilable differences that form when parties to a divorce start squabbling about money. The financial consequences of divorce arouse a passion which often breeds that caused by the breakdown of the marriage itself. The reason, for the most part, is that there is not enough money to go around.

There is justice or injustice on both sides. Wives are often deserted and left to cope on inadequate maintenance while their husbands set up comfortable homes with their new partners. It is equally true that husbands, and their new families, can be crippled for years, even to the grave, by having to pay maintenance to their former wives, many of whom continue to live in the style to which the marriage had accustomed them. Many of the allegations and counter-allegations that are the norm in these disputes have their basis in the circumstances in which the break-up occurred.

The abolition of the "guilty" party in divorce may have simplified the law but it has not convinced those who believe themselves to have been the innocent partner and resent the other spouse getting away with his or her wrongdoing with financial impunity.

The Scottish Law Commission rightly rejects the "meal ticket for life" approach, which would impose on one of the spouses (in practice the husband) the continuing obligation to support the other even if the marriage no longer existed. The "clean break" approach would work injustice the other

way. The commission has opted for a compromise which would impose the obligation of maintenance for three years, after which it would cease, unless there were exceptional circumstances.

The Scottish compromise is well directed against those wives who regard maintenance as a pension and make no effort to create a new life and livelihood. It is generous to the small group of wives who leave their husband after a brief marriage and luxuriate in a new lover. But it would be harsh on very many other wives. Two separate considerations suggest that the simple three year rule is unjust. It is too short a period for those divorces which leave a wife with very young children who need constant care for four or five years or more. Maintenance for them alone is not enough; the mother is almost always the right person to look after the children and she should be financially assisted while she does it in their formative years.

The second consideration is more awkward for the three-year rule. Many a wife, by staying at home caring for children or even just devoting herself to her supporting her husband's career, thereby irretrievably diminishes her own career and expectations. Some very able barristers are "locked" into baby care and bedmaking, where they might be blazing a trail to the bench, and everyone knows there are better managers marking time at home than going out to climb the ladders to the boardrooms. Of course, it might be said, such wives must share with the husband the penalties for the failure of the marriage.

And a brief interruption is a small penalty. But what of the career which is wholly sacrificed? Should not the husband have to accept some of the consequences of such a wife finding herself unemployed? A sense of fair play suggests he should.

The answer may lie in relating the cut-off period of maintenance to the length of marriage, rather than to an indelicate comparison, in the way redundancy payments are related to years of service. Three-months entitlement for every year of marriage, for instance, would give the wife of a 20-year marriage a guarantee of five-years of maintenance. This is fertile ground for actuarial equity. Certainly, the length of a marriage is a most important factor.

There is further reason for feeling the Scottish recommendation is unfair to wives. It is an unhappy fact, beyond the control of parties to a divorce, that it discriminates against women both in employment opportunities to which they have access, and in the rewards available to them when they find jobs. British employers, moreover, lag far behind many of their European and American counterparts in providing facilities, creches and the like, for the children of working mothers. Until more genuine equality of opportunity is achieved — and a recession works against that aim — there cannot be genuine sharing of child care. Women will continue to have to take the primary responsibility. Most of them do so willingly and happily, when things go wrong the law should err, if it errs at all, on their side.







# Saturday Review

Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful: An extract from Alan Paton's new novel

## It is the time to turn and fight

It is the fifties in South Africa. The Nationalist Government has introduced the Bantu Education Act to separate black and white schoolchildren. For white liberals, such an Act is not something simply to protest about. But they can expect little sympathy from the blacks. Alan Paton's novel thinly disguises the political figures in South Africa at that time.



### The characters

● The white headmaster: Robert Mansfield, head of Newcastle High School, and a former cricketer for South Africa. He is under attack from the Department of Education for organizing mixed race cricket matches.

● The black headmaster: Wilberforce Nhlapo, head of the neighbouring J. F. Hofmeyr High School, from which the black cricketers come. A political conservative whom the system suits.

● The black schoolmaster: Dlamini, a science teacher at J. F. Hofmeyr, who criticizes his headmaster and resigns his post in protest against apartheid and the Bantu Education Act. A Congress hard-liner.

● The black messenger of the court: Nene, a black liberal who is impressed by Mansfield's example, and is toying with joining the mixed race Liberal Party despite pressure from other blacks.

The resignation of Mr. Robert Mansfield from the headmastership of the high school has come as a shock to the people of Newcastle, pleasant to some, unpleasant to others. The parents are more or less divided into two equal parties: the one totally opposed to the headmaster's racial experiments, the other not necessarily all in favour but unanimous in their high opinion of his headmastership.

The majority of these citizens who are not parents are glad to see him go. They do not all agree with Mr. Barend Coetzee, who had told Mansfield that he was a 100 years before his time, some of them reckon that his time will never come, that the Government, and especially the powerful Dr. Hendrik, have a master plan for the total separation of the races, not for a 100 years, but for ever.

The school is not so sharply divided. There are a few boys and girls who are glad to see him go, and most of these are the sons and daughters of parents who find the racial experiments abhorrent. But most of the boys are full of regret to lose a headmaster who has played cricket for South Africa, and as for the girls, many of them have been in love with him in school days, which is not altogether surprising, for he is a handsome man.

And what has he resigned for? The newspapers have asked him, of course, but he has refused to tell them until the day after he leaves the service of the Education Department. This gives credence to the rumour that he is going into politics, and that he is going to join the new Liberal Party.

The party has attracted a fair number of whites who would call themselves liberals, including the redoubtable Margaret Ballinger, one of the three members of Parliament elected by those black voters who, in 1956, were removed from the common roll, in return for their removal they were given three white MPs, and the black voters of Cape Eastern chose Margaret Ballinger to represent them.

expressed its condemnation of all forms of totalitarianism, including communism and fascism. I understood what you are doing, Robert, and I admire you for it, but I am disappointed all the same. You know it is my weakness to lean on you, and whom shall I lean on now?

I thought of you a great deal before I did it. I had to ask myself which was more important. You and I have tried to bring out schools and our children closer together, but now our attempts have been forbidden by both our departments. What was more important, for me to stay here to comfort you, or to go out and fight on a national platform for the things we believe in?

You don't need to explain it to me, Robert. But Elizabeth and I are going to miss you, and Naomi... sorely.

But at least you haven't got Dlamini to contend with. Tell me, why did he resign?

He didn't tell me, but I assumed it was because he refused to teach under Bantu Education. The Security Police wanted to know too.

So they've been to see you.

For two days running. They searched Dlamini's house from top to bottom. They asked me why he resigned. I said I had heard that he had been offered a job as an industrial chemist in Durban. But they didn't believe me. They asked me his views on Bantu Education, and what he thought of Dr. Hendrik. I told them that he didn't approve of Bantu Education, but that I had never heard him speak about Dr. Hendrik. Then they wanted to know why he disapproved of Bantu Education, and I said it was his opinion that it was an inferior education, and furthermore that the insistence on home language as the medium of instruction up to Standard Six simply meant that no black child could ever become a scientist or a mathematician.

Then they asked me if I agreed with him, and I said that this was the opinion of the majority of black teachers. Science and Mathematics, and that I agreed with them. Then the black man took over, Sergeant Magwaza was his name, and asked if I was ashamed of the Zulu language. Robert, I nearly laughed, but decided not to. I said no, I was very proud of it, and I wanted all my pupils to speak it well and to write poems and stories in it, but it was not the language of Science and Mathematics, no more than English is the language of cattle and grass and herbs. Then this black fellow asked me what I thought of Dr. Hendrik and I told him that my opinion was my own, and that in any case I was not a great talker about other people.

Good for you, Wilberforce. How did they take that?

Not well at all. The white fellow said to me that where the security of the State was concerned, no-one's opinions belonged to himself, and that it was the duty of the Security Police to know everyone's opinions, and that it was the duty of every person to let the Security Police know what his opinions were. I wanted to say he was talking rubbish, but I thought I had

better not. I just said I did not believe that. I believed that every man and woman had a right to privacy, just so long as they were not using their privacy to break the law.

This white fellow said to me that a court of law might decide that my views were subversive, and that I had better be careful. I said the big trouble was that the court of law was no longer allowed to judge such matters. It was decided by the Minister of Justice acting on the advice of the Security Police. The white fellow was now getting angry, and he asked me whether Dlamini and a number of staff members had celebrated the election of Lutuli as national president of Congress.

I said they had had a party, yes, but I was not invited so I did not know what they were celebrating. Then Sergeant Magwaza said that I said the big trouble was that the court of law was no longer allowed to judge such matters. I thought to myself, only my wife and my vice-principal could have given them proof, and neither of them would. But then I thought of someone else. That's what happens, Robert, you begin to trust nobody. I remembered that on his way to report to me about the hostels, Kozza had met Mbete coming away early from the party, and Mbete had told him that the staff was sending a deputation to me the next day to ask me to change the name of the school.

Kozza and I have always regarded Mbete as on our side, but then one begins to doubt. So I said to Magwaza: What is your proof? He said it was not their custom to bring the proof, and that made me think again of Mbete. The white fellow asked me if I had announced to the school that Lutuli had been elected and I said yes. I had done it because the school was restless. He wanted to know if I had called him Chief Lutuli, and I said yes. He asked if I knew that he was no longer a chief, and I said yes. Why then did I call him a chief? Was I trying to belittle Dr. Hendrik in the eyes of the school? Had some of the boys and girls called out *Magwaza*? Yes.

I was now almost at the end of my patience. You have never had this experience, Robert, of being interrogated by two hard and determined and limited men, who have sold themselves body and soul to this terrible machine that has no mercy. I regard these men as my inferiors, but I must sit for hours and be questioned by them.

The white fellow I understood. He is defending his people and his language and his power and his children. The black one I do not understand at all. I want to say to him, Come and see me one day because I want to understand why you take a job like this!

High School, not the kind of friendliness where a white man writes a letter to a black man and starts it off with the word Greetings, but the kind where the white man and his wife call the black man and his wife by their first names, and visit them often.

Now Mr. Nhlapo was held in very high respect by the black people of the district, and if he and his wife could go to the house of the white headmaster for dinner, then the white headmaster and his wife must be human beings, which must have the quality of *ubuntu*, which is the quality of humanness, the quality of human beings when they are at their brightest and best.

Mind you, the fact must be faced that many black people don't think white people have any *ubuntu* at all. They think the laws show this clearly. The law, for example, that does not give teacher Mr. Mazibuko the human right to have his widowed mother to come to live with him, because her home is in Esbawee, and her son is in Newcastle, and he is in Newcastle only because he is a teacher, and teachers are not subject to the stringent regulations that control the movements of African people into other areas. Or it would be truer to say, the Bantu Education Department is not subject to these regulations.

However, the widowed mothers of teachers are subject to them. Black people are at a complete loss to understand how this can be, because such laws were unknown in their societies. But they do not protest, except to one another. Indeed to whom else could they protest?

But one must also face the fact that many white people don't think that the black people have the quality of humanness either.

The publication of *Cry, the Beloved Country* in 1948 drew the world's attention to the plight of non-whites in South Africa. It was the first novel of Alan Paton, who was to become a leading member of the South African Liberal Party and a virulent critic of apartheid. In 1960 the South African regime confiscated his passport. *Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful* is the first novel in an intended trilogy.

Black people are cruel and merciless and will rise up tomorrow and kill everybody, as they killed Sister Aileen in East London. These white people have not heard of Mrs. Theresa Ganyile of that same city, who hid Inspector Pieter de Vries in her bedroom when he was in danger of his life, but luckily the angry mob went down another street otherwise she would have been in danger of her life also. Or maybe these white people have heard of Mrs. Ganyile, but she is the exception that proves the rule of their fears.

Will these people ever overcome their fears of one another? Well, that's a problem, and it exercises the minds of Robert and Naomi Mansfield, so much so that he has given up his job to join the Liberal Party, and she, after her long stay, is supporting him.

There is one thing more. This white headmaster has more than once taken his boys and girls up to Ingogo to play cricket and hockey against Mr. Nhlapo's boys and girls. Then the Department of Education forbade him to do it, and he has resigned.

Nevertheless his knowledge of the black world is still limited, but he is shortly to have it considerably extended.

Mr. Mansfield, a Mr. Emmanuel Nene to see you.

Mr. Nene? Who is he?

He says he is the messenger of the court. But his visit is private, and if you would like him to come after school he would willingly do so.

No, let him come now.

Mr. Nene was not a big man, but he had a fine big moustache. He wore riding breeches and short leggings halfway to the knees, and he carried in his hand a magnificent hat with Texan and South American connections. He appeared to be in his early thirties and he advanced on Mansfield with a confident smile, holding out his hand with every confidence that such an action would not be regarded as presumption by the headmaster.

Mr. Nene sat down and surveyed the office with his confident smile.

Call me Emmanuel. That is what my father called me. It means, but you probably know, God with us. As far as I am concerned, my father was right, for God has been with me. And I am coming here today to hope that he will be with you also.

So you are not a messenger of the court?

Mr. Nene's eyes widened at such ignorance, and he smiled too at it, but very tolerantly.

I do not go to white people as messenger of the court, Mr. Mansfield, I go to black people, not coloured people or Indian people or white people.

His eyes widened again as he prepared to instruct the headmaster in the intricacies of his profession.

Could I come here to your office and tell that you must be at D Court at nine o'clock tomorrow morning? Oh no, I could not do that. Or could I come to your house and take away your car because you have not yet obeyed the decision of the court to pay a fine of 20 pounds? Oh no, I could

not do that. But I can go to Headmaster Nhlapo and tell him to be at the court.

Mr. Nene laughed with amusement at what he had to tell next.

I was once sent by mistake to Mr. Ebrahim, the big merchant with the big house and the big car. He did not like being summoned by an African Messenger who had only enough money to buy a motorcycle. Now in Mr. Ebrahim's car he can roll down the windows if he is hot, and he can roll them up if he is cold. But there are no windows in my motorcycle, only fresh air. So he complained, and they sent him a white messenger.

Then tell me, Mr. Nene, I mean Emmanuel, why have you come to see me?

I'll tell you that. I've come to see a man who resigns his job because he does not wish to obey an order that will prevent the children of his school from playing against the children of Mr. Nhlapo's school. I want to see what this man looks like. We are not used to seeing such people.

It is not quite true that I resigned because of that order. I resigned because I think it is time to go out and fight everything that separates people from one another, and especially people of one colour and one race from people of another colour and race.

I am not foolish, Mr. Mansfield. You must not think, because I have this big hat and wear these riding trousers and ride round on a motorcycle, that I am foolish.

Mr. Nene laughs cheerfully at such a proposition.

Perhaps you think I am foolish because I work for a government that sends white men to summons white men and black men to summons black men. Perhaps then you would be right. But I understand very well that you have not resigned just over a game of football. And I want to see what you look like, for a special reason.

Well, how do I look? Like a knight in shining armour?

Like a what?

A knight. K-n-i-g-h-t.

Oh yes, a man on a horse.

Yes, and his armour is shining because he is going out to do brave deeds.

Mr. Nene was suddenly serious, but even when he was serious, he smiled his innocent smile.

Yes, you look like a knight in shining armour. But you are going to get wounded. Do you know that?

I expect that may happen.

Well, you expect correctly. In my work I see a lot of white people. They talk freely in front of me because in a way I am not there. They do not like what you are doing. They did not like what you were doing before, but when the Director of Education said no more games, they thought you would stop, and they wanted you to stop, because you are a good cricketer and a good headmaster. But you don't stop and so they are forced to do something they do not like to do at all, they are

forced to say that a good cricket player is not always a good South African.

Mr. Nene smiled deprecatingly and smoothed his moustache.

Now you know that rugby and cricket are the white man's religion, and it is a terrible thing when you find out that a man who is good in your religion is against the colour bar. Because rugby and cricket and the colour bar are really the same thing. That's why the All Blacks leave the Maoris at home when they come to play the Springboks. That's why no black man has ever been allowed onto a white cricket club, and no black man has ever become a Springbok. Am I right?

Your language is picturesque, Emmanuel. When you say that rugby and cricket and the colour bar are really the same thing, that I understand what you are saying, but I don't say it like that.

Mr. Nene acknowledged the criticism cheerfully.

I am picturesque, Mansfield laughed.

I said your language is picturesque, but you are quite right, you are picturesque too. What is the special reason that made you come to see me?

I understand that you are resigning to join the Liberal Party.

I am not saying till I have left the service.

But you must tell me. It is important to me to know. It might change my life.

Yes, I am going to join the Liberal Party.

I am thinking of the same thing.

You're going to wear the shining armour too?

Yes. And I'm going to get wounded also. Not only by the Government, but by my own people as well. Just like you. Some of them will say, Why don't you stay with your own people? Why don't you join the Congress? Why get mixed up with these white people, who are rich while you are poor? There's your bell, so I must go.

I must go, too. Thank you for your visit. You must come to visit us. My wife will be glad to meet you.

Mr. Nene rose, and looked cheerfully around him.

I don't worry about the wounds. When I go up there, which is my intention, the Big Judge will say to me, Where are your wounds? and if I say I haven't any, he will say, Was there nothing to fight for? I couldn't face that question.

Mr. Nene left his aura in the headmaster's office. Mansfield, who was sometimes troubled by the magnitude of his decision, felt a burst of hope for the future. He felt that he had experienced an *nhlanhla*, a sudden stroke of fortune, in the strange person of a messenger of the court, a small man with a big hat and a big moustache.

He had in fact had an encounter with the light. It was not the kind of thing to expect in Newcastle.

Alan Paton's *Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful* will be published on November 12 by Jonathan Cape, price £6.95.











## Chess/Harry Golombek

## King in peril

An examination of nine different chess-playing machines reveals two basic deficiencies (or even defects) in their play. One is that they are over-materialist in their approach to the game.

Obsessed by this acquisitive spirit they love to make captures and will cling on to and defend their material to an end that is inevitably bitter. This renders them ideal opponents for players who are willing to sacrifice material for the attack. The machines readily accept sacrifices and themselves regard a sacrifice that is more than one move deep as anathema.

The second failing is bound up with the first and is really its natural supplement. Far from realizing how vulnerable a piece the King is, they allow it to be denuded of its natural protection in the shape of pawns, being well content if they gain material in some other part of the board away from the King. I suppose that in more than 50 per cent of the games I have played against them they have lost directly because they have allowed me to deprive their King of its pawn protection.

These defects apply to all the machines, even to the better ones, among which I class the Morphy machines produced by a firm called Applied Concepts Inc. My attention was first drawn to the Morphy Encore master chess computer in a curious and rather flattering way. In early July when Penguin Books launched no less than four chess books on an unsuspecting public, they asked me to give a review of the book on the Morphy Encore.

However, as one might have expected, it faltered and lost rather badly in the ending. Nevertheless, the Morphy Encore machine is one to be reckoned with and is only a little inferior to the Champion Sensory Chess Challenger I mentioned the other week.

Meanwhile I have received an interesting letter from Mr Hans Heinritz who has tried out a variation on all the computer chess machines he has been able to obtain and invariably won. It runs as follows (with the computer having White):

1. P-K4, 2. N-KB3, B-B4, 3. N-B3, BxP ch, 4. KxN, Q-R5 ch, 5. K-K3, Q-N4 ch, 6. K-Q4, P-B4 ch, 7. K-Q5, N-K2 ch, 8. K-B4, QxN.

Now the computer is clearly losing and the Auto-response board on level 6 continued 9. P-B3, P-Q4 ch, 10. PxP, QxQ ch, 11. K-N5, B-Q2 ch, 12. K-R5, P-B5 dis ch, 13. K-N4, N-R3 ch, 14. K-R3, Q-R4 ch, 15. Q-R4, QxQ mate.

The machine's fifth move, K-K3, is clearly motivated by the desire to return material to which I have already referred. By playing 5. K-N1 or 5. P-KN3, he could have won easily.

Another curious point about this line is that it is the same as one given by international master Julio Kaplan in a book called *How to get*

the most from your chess computer that was published by Pitmans earlier this year. In this excellent work Kaplan refers to the machine's "over-reliance on material considerations" and illustrates it by this line, albeit with a mistake on move 2 when he plays as Black B-c4 when he means B-c5. Note that we are using the algebraic notation here since in fact all chess computers work on this notation and I have transliterated it to the descriptive for the sake of easier understanding.

Mr Heinritz asked me to try the line out on another chess machine and, since it has relevance to my main theme, I played it as Black against the Morphy Encore. In every case the machine played the losing move of 5.K-K3, with variations on moves 8 or 9 for White that also led to an early loss by the machine.

I have to confess that I obtained quite a lot of enjoyment in testing out the Morphy machine, even though, or perhaps because, it, like other machines, tends to make one feel like a combination of Alekhine and Capablanca, with Bobby Fischer and Anatoly Karpov thrown in for good measure. Morphy Encore costs £179 and is obtainable from Kramer & Co., 9 October Place, Holloway Hill Road, London, NW4, 1EJ.

As an illustration of the sort of fun one can have with the machine I give a game I won against it when the Morphy Encore was put on level 3, a level on which it is supposed to have a U.S. Chess Federation rating of 1600. White H. G. Black Morphy Encore Ruy Lopez

1. P-K4 P-K4 4. B-M4 N-B3  
2. N-KB3 N-QB3 5. O-O N-B3  
3. B-M3 Q-R3 6. R-M1

The book move is 6.P-Q4, but I had resolved to try out the machine by adopting unbookish lines.

6. P-Q4  
A weak move; correct was 6...N-B4; and if then 7.NxP, B-K2, with equality.

7. B-M4  
Not perhaps as strong as NxP, but again I wanted to get Black out of normal lines.

7. B-M4  
Vigorous and acquisitive; safer was 7...B-K2.

8. P-Q4 B-QN5  
A waste of time that enables White to play a gambit that eventually leads to that denuding of the King I have described at the beginning of this article.

9. N-B3 N-K1 11. R-P ch B-K3  
10. P-M1

After 11... K-B1; 12. B-R3 ch, gives White a winning attack. But the text-move allows White to sacrifice a Rook for a crushing Kingside attack.

12. P-M1 BxR 13. P-B P-QM4.

If 12... O-O; 14. BxN, P-B3; 15. P-K2, Q-Q3 (or 15. Q-B1; 16. P-K3-Q, 16. Q-N3 ch, K-R1; 17. R-K6 winning the Queen).

14. P-M1 BxR 15. N-Mch K-N1  
Other King moves are no better, eg 15... K-B1; 16. Q-B3 ch, Q-B3; 17. R-KB5, or 15... K-N5; 16. B-B2 ch, K-R3; 17. N-B3 ch, checkmate.

17. Q-Q4 ch K-R1  
17. Q-Q4 ch K-R1

## Diary Quiz

1. Which country started a new innings on a rainy cricket pitch?
2. What's thought to be a good line to invest in?
3. Who made a £17m flutter?
4. What prompted an unholy war?
5. Grosser profits?
6. Who is following in Big Daddy's footsteps?
7. Is there a doctor on the ward?
8. Oh Lucky Jim!
9. What took a long time coming out?
10. Who started four months' hard travelling on Thursday?
11. Prudent Pussy?
12. Who announced he was on his last lap?
13. OK on 27 and 934?
14. First and last sale?
15. Who threatened a demonstration that would go with a bang?



So many good entries made choosing this week's winner a hard task. I liked "That'll do nicely, sir" from several readers. Three runners-up: "Take the waiting out of waiting" from Mr K. Poole of Stevenage; "Counter-espionage" from Mr Conway of Blackburn; and "Bank charges shoot up" from Roger Yare of York. The winner is A. C. D. Butler of Lincolnshire with "Excuse me — can you supply me with a cartridge to fill this gun?"



Worker participation in a Japanese car factory is the subject of this week's picture. A bottle of Veuve Clicquot to the reader who sends in the wittiest caption. Entries on a postcard, please, to Peter Watson, Diary Quiz, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ, to arrive not later than first post on Thursday.

## Bridge/Jeremy Flint

## Priorities first

"First things first," we were told when we were young. A singularly obstinate child, it was not until much later that I realized the advice was sensible and practical. At the bridge table, the failure to observe a proper sense of priority is the frequent cause of unnecessary defeat. Here is a simple example.

Rubber bridge. Game all. Dealer South.

♠ 10 7 4  
♥ 10 9  
♦ A K  
♣ A K

♠ 9 8 5 2  
♥ 7 6 5 2  
♦ Q J 10 9 8  
♣ 7 6 5 2

West North East South  
No 34 No 34  
No 34 No 34

Opening lead ♠Q

The final contract is against the odds. Although the use of a forcing take-out on any hand with 16 points or more, there is much to be said for the modern philosophy of reserving the forcing take-out for hands with powerful support or an independent suit.

Declarer won the club lead in dummy and immediately finessed the ♠Q. East's ♠J3 ensured the setting trick for the defence. Declarer was guilty of muddled thinking. To make the contract, he must restrict his losses to either no hearts and one spade or one heart and no spades.

Superficially, 5 Clubs appears to be a superior contract. Deeper analysis reveals that 3 No Trumps is better. Declarer learnedly ducked the ♠K in case the hearts were divided seven-two, but was forced to win the heart continuation. He wished the ♠AQ and learnt the bad news. Now he could only see seven tricks. After an impressively accurate aside that the probability of losing no diamonds was only 34 per cent, declarer took the safe line. He was evidently needed by his partner's undisguised lack of approval.

Whereas it is true that the spade suit offers the best chances of making the ♠Q, East's ♠J3 ensured the setting trick for the defence. Declarer was guilty of muddled thinking. To make the contract, he must restrict his losses to either no hearts and one spade or one heart and no spades.

My final hand deceived a player who is certainly no novice. Rubber bridge. East-West game. Dealer North.

♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♥ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♦ A K  
♣ A K

♠ 9 8 5 2  
♥ 7 6 5 2  
♦ Q J 10 9 8  
♣ 7 6 5 2

West North East South  
No 34 No 34  
No 34 No 34

Opening lead ♠Q

South correctly ducked the opening lead and won the heart continuation. He ruffed a heart with dummy's ♠5 and cashed the ♠A and ♠K. If the diamonds had been divided seven-two, he would have been able to discard one of his losers. Unhappily, West ruffed the second round of diamonds and South could not avoid losing a heart and a club, to go one down.

Did you spot South's mistake? It was an error players frequently make. Suppose that instead of taking the heart ruff immediately, South starts with two rounds of trumps. He then turns to the diamonds. As before West ruffs the second round, but the critical difference is that dummy's trump provides the vital entry to the ♠Q.

## Travel: Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

New equipment/Michael Howe

## Don't get bogged down in technology

These days of course you do not hurry down slippery slopes with wooden planks strapped to furry boots. Your footwear is more likely to be of thermo-plastic attached to your skis by multi-directional toe units and quick release heel bindings with integrated retractable brakes.

The skis will have been designed in a laboratory with the help of a computer, and will probably be a combination of light alloy, steel, fibreglass, graphite and acrylic foam.

Ski technology has come a long way since those first Norwegians strapped on what were wooden planks. The choice in new equipment is bewildering, the technical terms, for the beginner, incomprehensible, and a new fashion in technique of technology can overtake you in the course of a single skiing season.

So how do you know what to buy? Like most things it is a matter of balancing needs against budget (although the most expensive will almost certainly not suit you unless you are an expert).

If you do not intend to keep ahead of the ins and outs of ski technology, you are in the hands of a sales assistant who it is certainly easier to evaluate than the equipment itself. So go to as many shops

as you can and discuss your needs. The two biggest retail chains only employ experienced skiers. Most have completed technical courses in the products they sell; and Alpine Sports say that from this season they are also insisting on university graduates.

You are certain to be asked about your skiing standard. Don't be tempted to exaggerate, and unless advised to do so, do not buy beyond your standard to save money later.

Details of what to look for are below, but first a word about prices. They are definitely down this season — some more than 30 per cent, which poses the question: were we being ripped off last year?

The explanation from the main retailers is that they have narrowed their margins and persuaded their European suppliers — some of whom are facing severe competition — to do the same. Alpine Sports say they have dropped one manufacturer who would not come to the party.

Pindisports are so certain that their prices are comparable to those at the resorts that they are offering to credit you part of the difference if you buy skis, bindings or boots from them before the end of December and then find them

more than 10 per cent cheaper on general sale in a resort.

What should you look for in equipment?

It may be stating the obvious to say that your bindings are the most important. If they do not release when they should you can break a leg, or worse. So pay more for them. All the main manufacturers make good ranges for all standards, up to about £70 at the top for Salomon, Tyrolia, Gerni and Look. But you do not need the top of the range unless you are a heavyweight or particularly aggressive. Salomon 626 or Standard 727s have an especially good reputation. But remember bindings are only as good as their adjustment. Make sure this is done properly.

Boots come next. Above all do not buy them too big; try them on with thin socks. Salomon, whose new boots took the slopes by storm last year, have brought out two cheaper models for intermediates at about £55. Sidis footbed insoles, shaped to your own foot, are worth considering with any boot.

Skis are complicated and difficult to choose. Be guided by the shop staff. Generally you are taller, heavier and ski faster, buy a longer ski. If a beginner get one which is

designed for easier turning at low speeds.

The fashion for very short skis seems to have been short-lived. They were easier to learn on but few European ski schools took to them wholeheartedly. However, Pindisports are continuing with their American Scorpions, only 110 cms long, from £89.

Compact or mid-length skis, which reach to about head height, or a little lower, are now considered the best for beginners. Alpine Sports sell the Spalding ST with Salomon 626 bindings for the all-in £74.40. While Pindisports offer, among others, Dynamic CD3s with the same binding for £79. Add Salomon SX60 boots and you are virtually equipped for under £150.

If you consider yourself an expert, the ski is the limit: the latest batch of models Free seem to have hit upon the best all-round combination with the Free 1280 and 1500.

And your other needs — put warmth before fashion, although it is not necessary to sacrifice the latter. Mittens are warmer than gloves because there is less surface area around the fingers. If you buy glasses rather than goggles, make sure they don't fall off when you touch your toes.

## Northern slopes/Richard Owen

## Feeling warm in Norway

For a country which claims to have invented skiing, Norway has not really had its fair share of winter sports visitors in recent years. Things are now looking up, however, and the skiers are coming back. The Norwegians themselves never went away, and neither for that matter did the Swedes, who pour across the border in well-organized droves as soon as the season begins. But the less fortunate British — who a decade or so ago were among Norway's most frequent guests — have until now been put off by the combination of a faltering British economy and an increasingly unfavourable exchange rate against the kronor.

Norway is still expensive — beer, for example, works out at about £1 a bottle — but not any harder on the pocket than many a skiing holiday in France or Switzerland. And the attractions are considerable. First among them are Norway's wide and often under-populated slopes (despite those Swedes), with comparatively short and fast-moving queues for lifts. The

relief at not having to jostle for space with a thousand others for hours on end provides a warm feeling in the crisp (and sometimes very cold) mountain air. So does the fact that the Norwegians are actually glad to see you, and the ski instructors are not only friendly and patient but speak immaculate audible English.

Norway does not boast any vast international resorts, so those in search of jet set glamour will be disappointed. What Norway does have is a number of modest well-run skiing centres, with both cross-country facilities and a variety of runs. They range from Telemark in the South (slalom is a Telemark word, and is used as a general term for downhill skiing) to chilly expanses of Finnmark in the north. The most popular resorts though are in the fjord country of West Norway and Nordland, with the Bergen railway providing spectacular access to Voss and Gjø, by way of a comfortable train ride through the mountains, with fiords and waterfalls on either side.

Gjø (pronounced Yallo) is probably the better-known resort, and the best bet for Britons rediscovering Norway. It has hundreds of kilometres of well-marked cross-country trails, as well as 20 slopes for downhill skiing, served by three chair lifts (one — rather inconveniently — on the other side of the valley) and eight drag. Since the lifts are all owned by different firms — Gjø, it seems, just grew — there is some lack of coordination, and it can be irritating to hike from the top of one lift to the next run. But the local powers that be have a firm grip on planning and have already instituted a combined lift pass.

The Gjø Hotel, run by Per Haaland, offers a suitably Scandinavian atmosphere after a hard day's (or morning's) skiing, complete with log fire and a cuisine which includes a delicious Norwegian traditional buffet. As a bonus, Mr Haaland's young son Paul Marius will show you how to wax and file your skis properly, and if you pay attention he might even go on to demonstrate how he be-

came the local "slalom" champion by emulating larger Steinmetz. Anyone looking for a quiet skiing holiday with a family flavour could do worse than look north, especially if the idea of combining cross country with downhill racing seems attractive. Do not be misled though, that in January the light falls early — about 4.00 pm — although some slopes are flooded.

How to get there: The Norwegian State Railway, 21-24 Cockspur St, London SW1, tel 01-930 6666, offer package holidays to Gjø, Voss, Gjøvik, Lillehammer, Telemark, Valdres and Oslo using SAS and BA, from London and Aberdeen/Glasgow, to either Oslo or Bergen, then by bus or train. Prices in Gjø, half board, 14 nights £383 in January, £446 high season. Inghams, 329, Putney Bridge Road, SW15, tel 01-788-6145 (reservations), offer Gjø and Voss only, from London, Scotland and provincial airports, using Dan Air, with buses and trains less well organized. Prices at Gjø: full board, 14 nights from £345 low season to £432 high.

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|-------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| DESTINATION       | FREEDOM FARE | BUDGET FARE |  |
| PALMA             | £174.50      | £106.00     |  |
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| MAHON             | £174.50      | £106.00     |  |
| VALENCIA          | £174.50      | £106.00     |  |
| ALICANTE          | £197.00      | £119.50     |  |
| BILBAO            | £147.50      | £124.50     |  |
| MALAGA            | £221.00      | £134.00     |  |
| ALMERIA           | £221.00      | £134.00     |  |
| SEVILLE           | £221.00      | £134.00     |  |
| BARCELONA         | £199.50      | £134.50     |  |
| SANTAGO           | £177.00      | £149.50     |  |
| MADRID            | £200.50      | £169.00     |  |
| LAS PALMAS        | £349.00      | £250.50     |  |
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AN EXAMPLE. From 9 January to 6 February 1982.

Seven days of half board including a pass for unlimited use of ski lifts: in a 2 star hotel: £121, in a 3 star hotel: £136, in a 4 star hotel: £241.

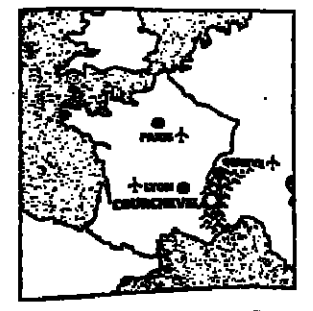
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# Countdown to Christmas: 2

## Christmas... and me

Second in the series:  
Philipa Toomey

Like many another, I contemplated on my TV the sight of one of our best actors as Othello got up as something of a jam for and turned to watch Charlton Heston in *The War Lord*. By serendipitous chance, in search of references to this film in the diaries Mr Heston kept from 1956 to 1976, I stumbled across a really astonishing piece of information: *Charlton Heston does his Christmas shopping on Christmas Eve*.

In this country anyone imagining they can buy anything at all on Christmas Eve has a nasty shock coming. Christmas is OVER. All shop windows are plastered with notices announcing that tremendous sales ("last chance to buy...") are about to begin the minute they can get the doors open after a boring and tiresome interval in trading. Even the pink porcelain pig, nourishing eight little loved ones, are labelled "ideal gift" in my local High Street last Saturday, will have gone—either to another pig, or to someone driven completely mad in the Christmas rush.

Can Mr Heston be the only truly sensible man in the world? How can it be Christmas when we have only just had Bonfire Night?

There are, said T. S. Eliot, a multitude of attitudes towards Christmas.

Some of which we may disregard: The social, the torpid, the parentally commercial, The rowdy (the pubs being open till midnight).

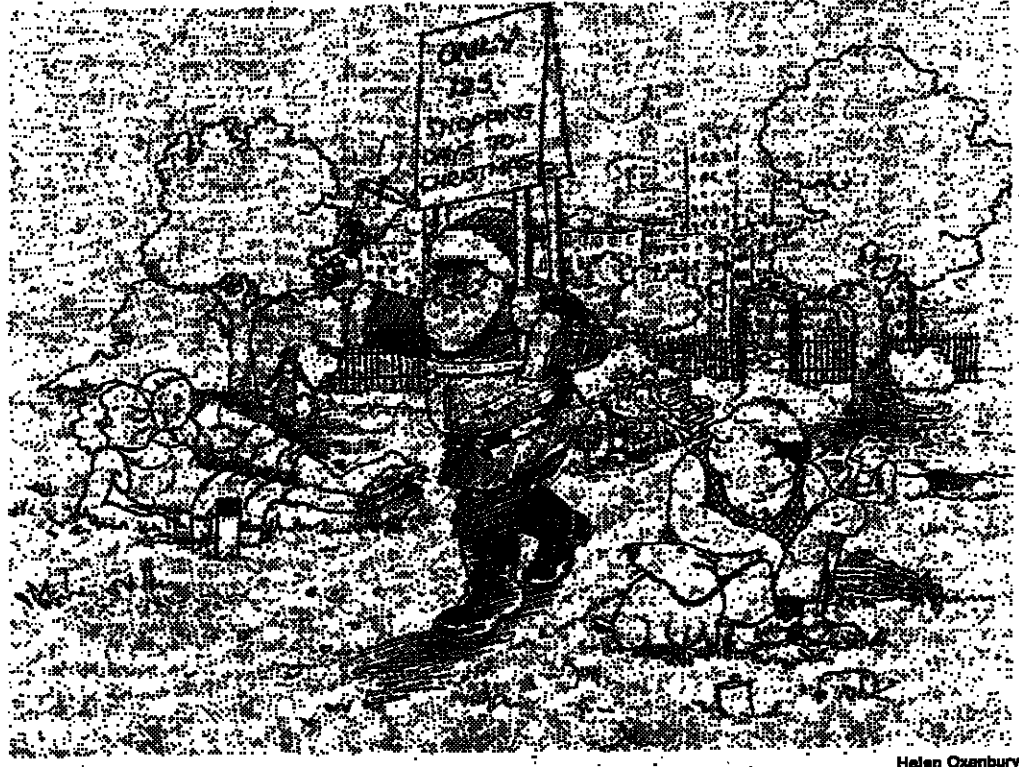
And the childish—which is not that of the child.

Can we disregard what has happened to Christmas? Perhaps it's something to do with the instant availability of strawberries in January, sitting in August. Not of course, that I regret the disappearance of the childlike from my life, but here we are, hardly into the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, being exhorted to think about Christmas.

When we get to it there will be 10 days of that endless goodwill, sitting around watching *Gone With The Wind*, *Morecambe and Wise* and the Muppets—all of them made sometime last July, or thereabouts.

A real Christmas now—what would that be? The accepted view is that Christmas is, to quote Mr Eliot again, for the child—

For whom the candle is a star, and the gilded angel Spreading its wings at the Is not only a decoration, but an angel.



Helen Oxenbury

If you are not a child, a rougher time is expected. When I went to live in the United States I was surprised to find how much New Yorkers seemed to enjoy Christmas—none of the exaggerated expressions, appalling lists, moans about Christmas cards, the dread of having relations to stay, the general British determination not to have a good time if they can possibly help it.

The Post Office gives earlier and earlier dates by which it can guarantee presents and cards arriving. If you have friends and family in Outer Mongolia, it's already too late—post should have gone before the August Bank Holiday. Like those amazing cricketers, the shops push the dates of Christmas back so that they can get a long and dangerous run up to the sales.

Even what the Post Laureate describes as "the sweet and silly Christmas things, both sales and inexpensive scene, and hideous ties so kindly meant" have gone up equally hideously in price since last year.

The great thing in America is that Christmas lasts for one day only—no Boxing Day, tucked on to a weekend, if Christmas falls awkwardly for the holiday. One you go on Christmas Eve, laden with parcels and presents, and back you come the next evening, having had a lovely day, and just enough of family life to make one glad to have seen them all. Next day, life continues.

Not content with shopping on

Christmas Eve, Charlton Heston has a Christmas tree sent down to him in Los Angeles from the forest in his home state of Michigan—on one notable occasion going out into the snowy woods with his little son and hacking the thing down himself.

If I had my way, preparations for Christmas would start as they did when I was still at school, when I got home about December 17. Up until that moment, if necessary by law—can you imagine the Christmas (Prevention) Bill going through both houses of Parliament?—not so much as a sprig of holly or a fat man in a red costume with a beard would be seen. Gift wrappings and ribbons would be kept in the stock room. All draconian laws would be passed concerning the correct amount of money involved in buying a present. In my New York office we all drew each other's names out of a hat and bought that person a suitable present (nothing to exceed \$5). The pursuit of happiness, as in the American Constitution, would be compulsory.

On the appointed date, the Christmas spirit would appear—it would stop raining, the shops would be full of exactly the right presents for everyone, roast chestnuts would scent the frosty air, Christmas trees and holly would be piled in heaps, Christmas carols would ring out, right up to the very last minute, not only for Mr Heston, but for all of us. From John Benjamin again.

And it is true? And is it true This most tremendous tale Seen in a stained glass window, hue A Baby in an ox's stall?

Those of us who believe have reason to rejoice. To church, then, on Christmas morning, through the snow which has fallen carefully and to about half a decorative inch during the night, with the garden positively infested with robins, and "The First Noel" and "Hark, the herald angels" back to presents under the tree and the Queen live—though nowadays, she isn't actually there—and on to the traditional Christmas feast, with all the bits, crackers and paper hats. Next day, back to work "Best Christmas I've had in years."

It sounds a little mean. After all, we do need our holidays. How about a few more scattered through the year, instead? The Americans have Thanksgiving, on the last Thursday in November—why don't we have one too? And something for Filthy February—an early Beltane, with bonfires, fireworks and muffled ale? A genuine May Day on May 1? Let's spread the goodwill throughout the year—we aren't going to get all that many Royal Weddings.

There is no such thing as an ideal world, nor an ideal Christmas. The Christmas tree from Michigan didn't arrive one year, causing woe in the Heston household, and one year the steam train caught fire. But we can try. In an ideal world, after all, it would have been Mr Heston playing Othello.

## What we want is...

More Times staff seek out their kind of presents: this week—records, home computers, bath salts (etc), books and wine

### ... Bartok

As far as recordings of 20th-century music are concerned, this has been Bartok's year. The centenary of his birth was the predictable excuse, but the scale and scope of new releases surpassed any expectation, with excellent recordings of virtually his entire output.

Two issues stand out for me from the mass. First must be the Tokyo Quartet's boxed set of the six string quartets, Bartok's central works, here performed with a virtuosity that astonishes without being self-congratulatory. Pierre Boulez's assemblage of the three string quartets is just as brilliantly performed, with all the surface economy and perturbed feeling that Bartok brought to the theatre.

Other masters of the first half of the century have not been so well served. We must wait till next year for centenary tributes to Stravinsky, though the Lon-

don Sinfonietta have anticipated the event with a lively performance of his *Agon*, curiously but not ineptly coupled with the gorgeous chamber concerto of Berg. Meanwhile lovers of Schoenberg can be well satisfied with a keenly felt and superbly well-played account of his Freudian opera *Erwartung* from Anja Silja and the Vienna Philharmonic under Christoph von Dohnanyi.

Recommendable recordings of music by living composers have sadly been few enough to select themselves. A case of "scarcity and interludes" from Ligeti's opera *Le grand macabre* should whet the appetite for next year's production of the work at the Coliseum. Elgar Edwards' marvellous Danish forces with a sure sense of the music's bizarre mix of parody and pornography.

Finally, Peter Maxwell Davies' *Five more stellas*, recorded by the Fires of London, is simply one of the rare masterpieces of our time.

■ Bartok: String quartets. DG 2740 235 (three records), £10-£14.

■ Bartok: Stage works. CBS 75338 (three records), £11-£15.

■ Stravinsky: *Agon*, Berg: Chamber concerto. Argo ZRG 937, £4-£5.50.

■ Schoenberg: *Erwartung*. Six songs opus 8. Decca SXL 7509, £4-£5.50.

■ Ligeti: *Le grand macabre*. Wergo WER 60085, £5.75.

■ Davies: *Five more stellas*. Unicorn-Kanchana KP 8002, £5.85.

Paul Griffiths

### ... bubbles

As a child I loathed being given bath salts. I used to wonder if adults had been born grown up. But tastes change. What luxury to wallow in a steaming, sultry-smelling, sticky, sudsy bath. Bliss. A good book, a glass of champagne and bath night is Utopia.

I like bath goodies for different moods, days and occasions. I adore Mary Chess's bath oils as a special treat. The whole house smells delicious for days, and I love sauntering under the sheets catching wafts of an exotic scent. Mary Chess' Elgar Edwards' marvellous Danish forces with a sure sense of the music's bizarre mix of parody and pornography.

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■ Davies: *Five more stellas*. Unicorn-Kanchana KP 8002, £5.85.

Paul Griffiths

bubbles stimulate me. Products with names good enough to eat. They should be sold with a warning to children.

In the pink (as opposed to the red) slither in a Strawberry Shake Oil bath; it's made by The Body Shop which bases its products on natural ingredients and is particularly interested in ecology and preservation of animals.

Moisturising Foam Bath is sold by Marks & Spencer in chunky, unbreakable bottles. I particularly enjoy frothing around, immersed in Peach. Sweet yet not sickly. Enough to make you dribble if not foam! Terrific value.

■ Bath oils by Mary Chess cost from £2.50 to £17.25 at 7 Shop, Market, Mayfair, W1Y 7HR. See for price list and carriage.

■ Foaming Bath Seeds cost 45p (12p p & p) from Taylor of London, 86 Sloane Street, SW1X 6JH. See for order form.

■ Moisturising Bath Oil by Floris of 89 Jermyn Street, SW1Y 6JH, £5.25 (£1.35 carriage). Free price list.

■ Crabtree & Evelyn's Foaming Bath Gel costs £2.85 from Liberty's, Schofield's, Leedes, and their shop in Kensington Church Street, W8.

■ Christmas pack of Strawberry Body Shampoo and Oil costs £3.95 including postage from The Body Shop at 1 Crane Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1LH. Free price list.

■ Moisturising Foam Bath from Marks & Spencer costs £1.10.

Doreen Tayler

### ... wizardry

For many parents 1981 will be the first year they can afford to buy the children a proper home computer. Clive Sinclair has a 'K' by the name of ZX81, a few world famous electronics wizards, is selling his ZX81 for only £69.95—the cheapest computer available anywhere.

Of course, you do not get a vast amount of computer power for that price. For a technically minded, the ZX81 has a 1K-byte RAM (Random Access Memory). That means it can store about 1,000 characters of text—enough to learn computing at home.

However, your children will probably soon feel cramped by the relative smallness of the memory particularly if they can play with a more powerful machine at school. So be prepared to be pestered by birthday time with requests to upgrade the ZX81 with a "16K-byte RAM pack" (£49.95) which plugs into the back of the computer and increases its capacity 16-fold.

Any 625-line television set

will do as a display screen for the ZX81; you just plug the lead provided into the socket that normally takes your TV aerial. But you may want to splash out another £49.95 to buy Sinclair's ZX printer, which will make a permanent record of everything that is on the



television screen. Both are illustrated.

The ZX81 uses a computer programming language called BASIC. It is certainly far easier to learn than the dreaded ALGOL and FORTRAN but non-technical parents always find that their children pick it

up more quickly than they. Be prepared for humiliation and avoid the home computer altogether if you cannot stand being taught by the younger generation. Fortunately, Sinclair includes an excellent ZX81 BASIC programming manual with every computer.

W. H. Smith is selling the ZX81 in its larger branches. Or it can be ordered by mail from Sinclair Research Ltd, Freeport 7, Cambridge CB2 1XY.

If you can afford to buy a microcomputer that does a little more than the ZX81, there is another excellent British product available, the Atom made by Acorn (a Cambridge-based firm like Sinclair). One of its advantages is that it has been selected by the BBC for their teach-yourself-computing broadcasts and it is a very popular choice in schools.

The Atom is available from specialist computer shops in most large cities, including Esco Computing in Glasgow, NSC Computer Shop in Manchester and Microage in North London, or by mail from Acorn Computers Ltd, Market Hill, Cambridge CB2 3RQ. The basic version costs £174.50.

Clive Cookson

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## Take one large store, a dozen top writers...

During November Harrods are introducing favourite cookbook writers to their fans in person. Arabella Boxer, Mary Berry, Pamela Harlech et al will be in the Kitchen Furniture Department on various days to sign copies of their books and receive compliments or brickbats from their fans and will be demonstrating their recipes too.

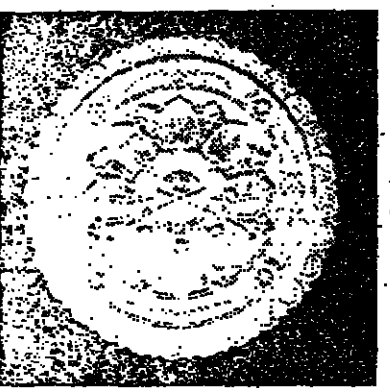
Beryl Downing will be there on November 25 from 12.30pm and also to sign her *Thirty Minute Cookery* book (Penguin, £1.50). She was too modest to mention this herself so it is up to me—having kept her seat warm these last few weeks—to let you know. Other personal appearances will be announced in the store on notice boards. You can also telephone Harrods' press office to find out when your own heroine will be there.

□ "The other is an up-market animal. And waterproof too...." Not a conservationist speaking but the man introducing Florex 21 carpets to the waiting world. The other is their symbol and their printed nylon carpet is indeed waterproof. A sheet of strong glass fibre is set between two sheets of pvc, one adhesive backed. Into this sheet 68 million (that's right) tiny nylon fibres per square metre are bonded electrostatically, and patterns are then printed on top. The first patterns

on other are a bit limited but we are promised more. The carpet is tough, and, since the fibres absorb nothing, easy to keep clean. Florex even offer a Punishment Kit, a small bit of carpet and a sachet of tomato sauce so that potential customers can try it out. The carpet costs £9-£10 a square yard from branches of the Army & Navy or Alders, also from Schofield, Leeds, and Cavendish House, Cheltenham. The Punishment Kit and leaflets will be sent by Mrs Rigg, Florex Ltd, PO Box 5, Ripley, Derbyshire (0773 44121). The turkey farmers were in fine fettle at the Savoy last week and full of information about their ability to load every Christmas table in Britain despite the French, who would have us believe we need cross Channel birds.

There's nothing you can't do with turkey meat and everyone is doing it, including Bernard Matthews of the booby bird fame. He started with a second hand incinerator and a dozen geese and is now selling two million turkey and pork sausages a week. Then there are the modest people like the Burtons who sell from their farm shop at splendidly reasonable prices. If you are passing near Valley Farm, Meltham, Royston, Hertfordshire (Royston 60445) do see what's for cooking.

## Making light of decoration



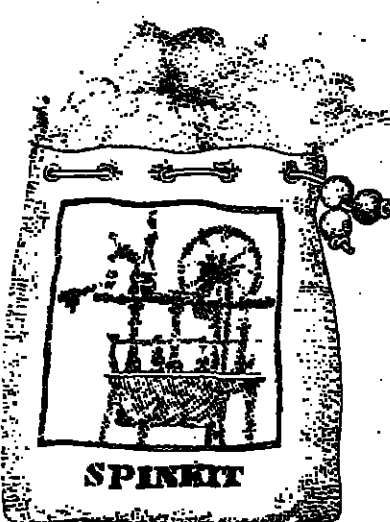
Roses by any other name may be made of plaster or, by modern methods, rigid polyurethane. That is the ceiling roses whipped out of Victorian houses in the past 1950s and '60s and now being re-installed by the next generation who want a little decoration. The bonus of the modern method is that roses, cornices and corbels pack and travel well, are light to stick up and have all the looks of the originals. Gerald and Ann Hodgson, who produce them, point out that Georgian and Victorian plaster were poor man's carved wood. They offer versions of six rose designs, this is Antonia, 24 inches in diameter, at £22.65 through shops or, including postage, direct from Copley Crafts, Thorney Grange, Spennithorne, Leyburn, N. Yorks (0969 23410). Send a stamped sae for retailers' names and illustrated leaflet.

## Sticky times

Among remembered pleasures of childhood are autumn afternoons spent making Christmas presents and decorations. A large pot of flour-and-water paste, snub-nosed scissors, coloured paper, paints and even back copies of *The Times* were our raw materials for paper chains. There were potato stamps carved out in angel and star shapes. They got squishy

after many pressings on to Christmas cards. This year's children will have as much fun if parents send for Philip and Tracey's catalogue of Christmas Craftwork, post free from them at North Way, Andover, Hants (0264 61171) to order stamps, tinsels, inks, cards, crayons. Phone orders happily accepted too.

■ On the distaff side for the spinning of elemental fleece, Kay Lea has invented a remarkable little wooden spindle. Her own leaflet best explains exactly how to use it and there simply isn't room for twirl-by-twirl instructions here. Her Spinkit comes in a little bag, with spindle, instructions and enough Jacob's sheep fleece to make a pair of mittens.



Send £3.95, plus 90p p & p, to Libra, Celdid Place, 13 Meer Street, Warwickshire, where the kit can be bought direct. Or make your way to Covent Garden Market so Kay herself can seduce you with the charms of this classic craft. She's among woolly knits on Wednesdays at stall 40 and at stall 19 on Thursdays.

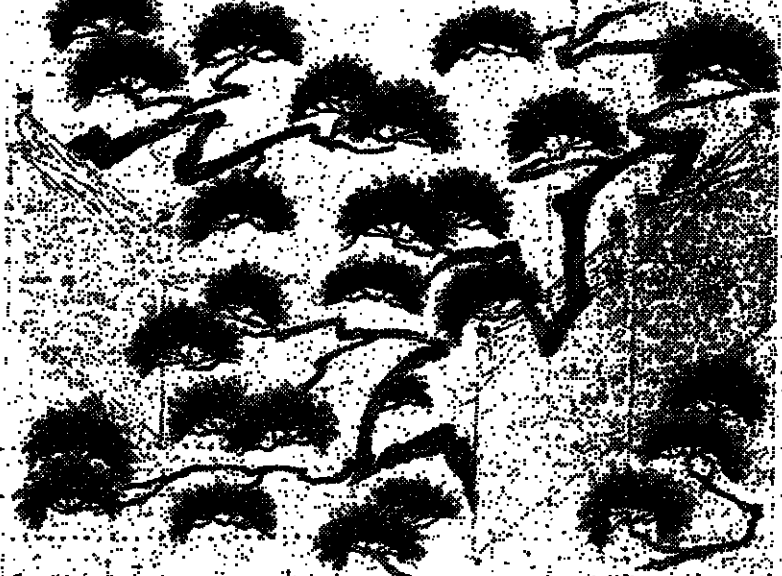
## Shoparound

by Diana Pollock

Beryl Downing is away



Michael Szell, working on his own hand-painted silk-screens, can adjust colour and line to give delicacy and infinite variety to his furnishing materials. His present collection, inspired by the traditional art of Japan, includes this design based on the famous gates and garden screens of the Edo period. Called Golden Gate, it features stylised Bonsai trees whose intricate shapes are a special art. As well as his own showrooms in Sloane Avenue, two other shops carry his designs: Liberty and Oscar Woolens of 421 Finchley Road, NW3.



## When big and small are beautiful

Michael Szell's real success is in selling his lovely furnishing fabrics to palaces and to the taxi driver's wife. "That's what democracy is all about," he says.

His is a love affair of colour, shape and texture and so infectious that it's hard to tear oneself away. Trips down the Amazon collecting orchids, an annual visit to India or the view over the sea from his house in south Devon are all part of the picture. In Devon, he says, he "wrestles in creative agony, setting ideas on paper to be translated on to silk".

His team of 11 use hand silk-screen printing and can take on any variation of pattern or colour provided you order 20 metres. No run-of-the-loam manufacturer can do this for he must tool up for long production runs.

Like any successful designer, it is the application of talent to the practical production problems that spell success. Michael Szell owes the practical side of his success to the years spent working for Miki Sekers at Whitehaven. Where would today's successful textile people be without the Sekers' years? He lit all the beacons by whose light others have profited since the 1950s and '60s.

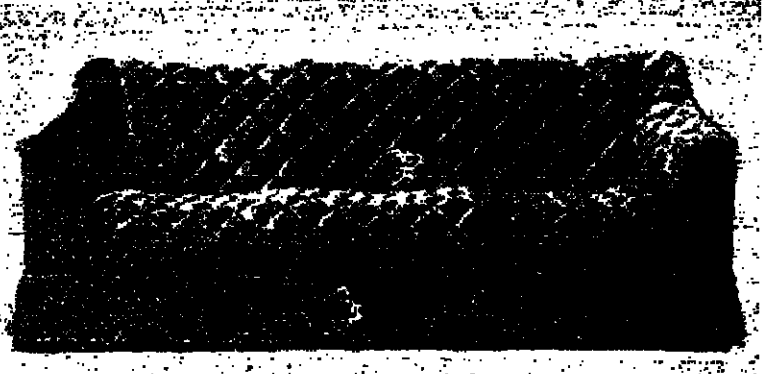
Professor Roger Nicholas was Michael Szell's teacher at the Royal College and to him, too, much is owed. It's a pleasure to find a man at the

top of his profession able to say thank you to those who set him on the path to glory.

Michael Szell arrived here from Hungary as an orphan at the age of six and there was nowhere to go but up. These real facts of life make him feel as respectful of humble people as of ambassadors' wives who order acres of beauty for embassy windows. (Of course he must know how to butter the paws of people who give themselves airs but I don't think he would ever let anyone feel they were less than personally important.)

His latest collection is inspired by Japan and began when he went there with the Royal Opera Company on tour. He understands the sophisticated understatement of Japanese design and achieves that paint on damask look that gives a three-dimensional quality to a two-dimensional art. Fine golden tea-leaf scattered on plain backgrounds and then overprinted with wisteria, peonies or cherry blossom on the bough—are equally successful.

How can anyone give more than a faint impression of all this skill and beauty, colour and touch in words? Michael Szell's showroom is small, friendly and he welcomes anyone who has the time to look at his collection. Even if you don't have a palace to furnish, for a real treat go to 47 Sloane Avenue, SW3.



## The easy clean settee

Sitting comfortably on upholstered sofas and chairs, dripping ice cream or coffee and with sticky fingers, is death to decent covers. Anyone with a buttoned Chesterfield and a busy family must be ruing the day they ever thought they would be able to keep up with the mess.

Looking straight in the face, the Swedish firm of Ulferts are producing lift-off-and-clean quilted covers for their sofas and

chairs. Not cheap but thoroughly practical. For example, this three-seater sofa costs £390.95; the two-seater version is £301.60 and matching chairs are £229. Their illustrated catalogue will be sent from 12b St George Street, London W1. Retailers are Lee Longland, Birmingham; Hunter Furnishings, Ayr, Scotland; Army & Navy, London; Bentalls, Kingston, and their own showroom at 44 Maddox Street, London W1.



## Pointer from the past

As an antidote to all those hygienic kitchen fittings, squared-up white boxes with metal trim, Salter's are reproducing their first Family Scale, originally circa 1875. The curious and gilding are lovingly copied, it is made of black, cast metal and has a solid brass pan. As a concession to the rest of Europe it measures in both pounds and kilos, calibrated in 1oz or 25 gram divisions. To complete the recipe look even the packaging is Victorian. Costing £27.75 at John Lewis (brass dial only) or Timothy Whites (brass or white dial), it looks set to be a favourite buy for nostalgia buffs.



Small furry animals fluff themselves up in cold weather to make the most of body heat. Courtielle does the same for babies; and does it washably. This teddy bear number by Rockbury is made in four sizes: 6, 12, 18 and 24 months at prices from £6.99 to £9.99. The toggles in the front are chew-proof and the hood should keep the ears warm. The choice is pale blue, lemon, pink, red, navy, white or soft beige with white tummy panel in front. From: R. N. Weekes, Tunbridge Wells; L. Phicks, Farnham; Sher Bros., Glasgow; or write to Courtielle, 13-14 Margaret Street, London, W1, for further stockists sending a stamped sae.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole

## Flying feathers in the kitchen

It was not a pretty sight. The kitchen was full of pheasant feathers and the plucked birds were sprawled on the draining board, dark and high and not a bit like the neatly trussed creatures in the shops. With the help of stout rubber gloves, an empty stomach and a substantial scotch, I braved their interiors, and, at a loss for my brownie knots, trussed them with grannies.

They are very well too and were a rare treat in those first days of flat-sharing independence. Though now if I am given a brace of anything, the fishmonger will do them for me. Which is one of the real benefits of being a regular customer.

Roast pheasant is hard to beat, but served with fried apples and a well flavoured sauce of cream, brandy and stock, I think it tastes even better than with the traditional game chips, fried crumbs and clear gravy.

**Pheasant with cream and apples**  
Serves four  
2 young pheasants trussed with fat bacon for roasting  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
85 g (3 oz) butter  
2 shallots, peeled  
450 g (1 lb) Cox's orange pippin apples  
6 tablespoons game stock or water

4 tablespoons calvados or cognac  
150 ml (¼ pint) double cream

Put a small knob of butter rolled in salt and pepper and peeled shallot inside each pheasant and place them in a roasting tin. Roast in a preheated very hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) for about 45 minutes, or until cooked. The exact time will depend on the size of the birds and on whether you like them a little pink, or well done. Tip the juices from inside the birds into the roasting tin and set it aside. Rest the birds in a warm place until you are ready to carve them.

While the pheasants are roasting, peel, core and thinly slice the apples. Melt the remaining butter in a frying pan and sauté the apples until they are tender and beginning to brown a little, but still holding their shape. Transfer the apples to a serving dish, spread them evenly over the base and keep warm.

Carve the pheasants, taking thick slices from the breasts and severing the legs neatly. Arrange the meat on the fried apples, cover and keep warm. Use the carcasses and barding bacon for stock or discard.

Skin the fat from the juices in the roasting tin and stir in a bit of stock or water. Cook over a low heat, scraping up the crusty bits until the liquid has reduced by half. Add the

calvados or cognac and reduce again. Lastly add the cream, and reduce, stirring constantly, until the sauce has thickened slightly. Strain the sauce over the pheasant and apples and serve immediately. Serve with a few sprigs of peppery watercress and new or small main-crop potatoes peeled after cooking in their skins.

With young grouse which are sure to be plump and tender, I find fast roasting in a hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) by far the best method of cooking them. Old birds need long, slow cooking, and this is a safer method too of dealing with any of uncertain age and tenderness.

**Grouse with chestnuts**  
Serves two to four  
450 g (1 lb) fresh chestnuts  
30 g (1 oz) butter  
3 tablespoons peanut oil  
110 g (4 oz) fat bacon, diced  
110 g (4 oz) shallots or onion, finely chopped  
2 grouse, trussed with fat bacon  
2 tablespoons cognac

150 ml (¼ pint) game or chicken stock  
150 ml (¼ pint) red wine  
1 bouquet garni of parsley, celery, bay leaf and a sprig of thyme  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Using a sharp knife, slit the shiny brown skin of each chestnut on the domed surface. Lay them in a single layer, flat side down, in a roasting tray. Pour in 200 ml (¼ pint) water and roast them in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6) for about 10 minutes. Peel the chestnuts as soon as they are cool enough to handle and set aside.

Heat the butter and oil in a heavy fireproof casserole and sauté the bacon dice until they are crisp and golden. Remove the bacon and add the shallots or onion, and cook until soft but not browned. Remove the shallots and add the grouse. Brown them quickly on all sides. Drain off all but a tablespoon of the fat, return the bacon to the casserole and sprinkle with cognac. Light the cognac, and when the flames die down, return the shallots to the casserole and add the stock, wine, bouquet garni, salt and pepper. Cover and simmer on a low heat until the birds are tender. Add the chestnuts and continue cooking until the chestnuts are tender too.

To serve, remove the grouse from the casserole and take off the crusting strings and barding bacon. Cut off the legs and carve the breast meat in one section for each side. Return the meat to the casserole, and when it is heated through again, serve with baked or fluffy mashed potatoes.

Gardening/Roy Hay

## Tips for your present list

This week, with Christmas in mind, I offer a few items which you might care to give a garden minded relative or friend, or even to give yourself, as they are worth having and good value.

First is a new electrically heated propagating frame, the Greenspear GSP20. It is 10m high, 17½m long and 12½m wide. Well made in high quality plastic the base contains the built in electric heating element, thermostatically controlled between 70°F and 80°F, but the temperature may be reduced by opening the vents in the clear plastic dome cover or by raising or removing the cover.

Supplied with the propagator are two plastic "half" seed trays and five 4in square plastic pots. Available in garden shops at about £20 or from Greenspear Products, Progress Drive, Bridgwater, Somerset. Staffs for £21.90, including postage. Our garden over the years became a bit overgrown and needed some drastic treatment so we employed a splendid man from our local garden contractor for a few days and he was delighted with two garden aids he had met before. One was the Humper Dumper, a large sheet of woven 5ft square plastic with a handle at each corner.

You lay it on the lawn or a path and throw all the debris from cut down plants and weeds or leaves on to it. Then you gather up the four corners into one hand, sling

the thing over your shoulder and take it off to the rubbish heap.

It holds about as much as a small barrow and is just empty it on to the top of the heap. Too often the heap is too high to tip the barrow on to it so you have to fork all the rubbish out by hand. It costs £10.95 (£12.40 post paid).

From the same manufacturer has come a handy "Harvest Trug". Also of rot proof woven plastic, it is a traditional wooden trug but is more like a square basket about 9ins square and 5ins deep with two long plastic woven cord handles. It will hold 14lbs of fruit or vegetables, is easy to clean and folds away flat. It costs £2.95 (£3.65 post paid).

The other item that he really fell for is the "Grabber Rake". This consists of two 16in wide plastic blades, one of which you use to rake rubbish or leaves into small heaps. Then, by an ingenious device on the handle, you bring the two blades together and grip the rubbish and lift it into your barrow or on to your Humper Dumper. It costs £5.75 (£6.75 post paid).

It may seem ridiculous to talk about irrigation equipment at this time of year but we will surely have need to apply water to the garden at some periods next year, so a sprinkler for a present may be welcomed eventually.

For the ordinary medium sized garden, the oscillating sprinklers and the "Flip flap" or impulse sprinklers are the best bet. Hozelock Ltd, Haddenham, Aylesbury Bucks, have a good range of such sprinklers, and their model H543, which costs £14.33 (£16.88 post paid), is a very versatile piece of equipment.

It is a "Flip flap" sprinkler which will water a circle of up to 60 feet diameter or parts of a circle according to the water pressure. It is mounted on a tripod and may be adjusted from 2½ins to 44ins in height.

Hozelock have also produced a neat low voltage garden lighting set to illuminate paths and steps, awkward corners in the garden or merely to light up interesting features. The small mushroom shaped lanterns are mounted on ground spikes and the lamps are powered from a 12 volt transformer, so that one can move them about safely from one part of the garden to another.

Extension tubes raise the lanterns 27ins above the ground if desired, and about 15 yards of low voltage cable is supplied. The set of four lanterns and the transformer costs £55.17 (£67.52 post paid).

At present garden centres and nurseries have large stocks of very nice strong plants of camellias in many varieties and at most reasonable prices. One can buy a camellia up to about three feet high with quite a few flower buds for about £5 or £6. It pays to shop around if you can find the

really well branched and well budded plants.

□ We are sending some of our friends a camellia as a Christmas present this year. We will be giving them this warning that you hardly ever see in books or catalogues, that one should protect the roots of young camellias during their first few winters by spreading a good foot thick layer of leaves, peat, straw or bracken over the ground.

In 1960 I was given several dozen cuttings of a batch of new camellia varieties from America. I rooted them, kept them in a greenhouse through the 1961 winter and put them into a cold frame in autumn 1962. In that dreadful winter their roots were frozen and I lost them all.

□ Another thought for a present to anybody or to yourself—half-a-dozen, or maybe a dozen plants of heathers—varieties of *Erica carnea* and its hybrids. These are really splendid plants to give as gifts.

In our garden which had a heather patch which bore flowers off and on during the summer but which is now just beginning to unveil its splendid show which will go on until March or April. The bed is now about 15 years old and the plants completely cover the ground.

If you are doubtful about the acidity or otherwise of your soil you are safe with *Erica carnea* and hybrids as they will grow in any reasonably fertile soil, acid or alkaline.



## Triumph Acclaim is fifth best selling car

By Edward Townsend  
Industrial Correspondent

BL's Japanese-designed Triumph Acclaim, launched just over four weeks ago, has shot into the sales charts to become the country's fifth best selling car last month.

The company took the opportunity of the sales figures yesterday to announce the beginning of a night shift on the Acclaim production track at Cowley and the recruitment of 400 extra workers at the plant to build the Rover.

The success of the Acclaim—greater than many BL executives had hoped—reflects the considerable interest shown in the car by fleet as well as private buyers. It will be regarded as a bonus to morale after the uncertainty of the last few weeks when the state-owned group faced the possibility of extinction because of the latest pay dispute.

Assisted largely by the Acclaim and the continuing popularity of the Metro, BL's market share in the first 10 months was on target at 19.4 per cent. The company's sales in the period of 256,811 compare with Ford's 403,975 (30.5 per cent).

BL said yesterday that because of the "remarkable success" of the Acclaim, of which 3,279 were sold in October, the model at a 3 per cent market share, a night shift would be operated at Cowley for the first time in two years.

Acclaims are currently being built at the rate of 1,300 a week on a day shift but the hourly rate of 33 cars is thought to be straining production facilities. Some day

### NEW CAR REGISTRATIONS (August to October)

|               | 1981 | 1980 |
|---------------|------|------|
| BL            | 18.3 | 17.9 |
| Ford          | 30.2 | 26.7 |
| Vauxhall/Opel | 7.5  | 8.1  |
| PSA           | 11.9 | 9.3  |
| Japanese      | 11.9 | 15.6 |
| Total imports | 59.9 | 58.2 |

workers, augmented by others from Cowley's larger labour pool, are now to be asked to work a night shift, reducing the rate to 20 cars a day but boosting the weekly total to 1,500.

The revival in United Kingdom car sales in the last three months has renewed hopes in the industry that the year's total will be 1,800,000, below the 1980 figure of 1,533,000. In the first 10 months, sales reached 1,322,698, just 3.5 per cent lower than a year earlier. Imported cars accounted for 57 per cent of the market last month, compared with 51 per cent a year ago, but in the 10 months their share fell from 57.8 to 55.9 per cent.

In the top 10 sales list, the Ford Fiesta and BL Metro continue to battle for third and fourth places, with the Ford Cortina and Escort clear leaders.

In the United States, October's unexpected 26 per cent plunge in domestic car sales has forced production cutbacks and temporary shutdowns for factories. The moves have made 31,775 hourly paid workers idle.

## Reagan faced with deficit of \$145,000m

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Nov 6

President Reagan has been given grim news by his own economic forecasters who predict that the United States deficit could soar to \$145,000m (£77,000m) by 1984 unless there is a drastic change in policy.

The new deficit figure is said to be the more moderate projection among a number of conflicting estimates circulating among Mr Reagan's economic advisers who are divided sharply over their forecasts of growth for the next three years.

Officials at the Office of Management and Budget confirm that new forecasts indicate that economic activity has declined much more sharply than Mr Reagan had expected. They predict growth will drop at an annual rate of 4 per cent or more this quarter.

The forecast, coupled with a half of 1 per cent increase in unemployment last month, brings the total to 8 per cent, the highest since 1975, is sharpening the already open conflict among the President's key advisers.

Mr David Stockman, the budget director, recommended again this week that Mr Reagan reverse economic course and seek big new tax increases to avoid large deficits in 1983 and 1984 while Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, continued to oppose them.

Meanwhile, Republican Senate leaders attended an urgent

meeting at the White House yesterday morning in an attempt to resolve their differences with Mr Reagan by agreeing on a new fiscal strategy.

Several influential Senate Republicans urged Mr Reagan this week either to abandon publicly his notion of balancing the United States budget by 1984 or to agree to big tax increases.

But the President does not intend to change his policy by raising taxes and will attempt, instead, to reduce the deficit by seeking still bigger budget cuts. A White House official said.

However, Congressional leaders, including prominent Republicans such as Mr Howard Baker, Senate majority leader, doubt whether Congress will agree to steep new cuts before the 1982 election.

"The President may have to give up his notion of a balanced budget by 1984," one prominent senator said, and indeed Mr Reagan appeared to retreat from his earlier commitment to balance the budget in a statement issued before his meeting with Republicans.

"I have never said anything but that it was a goal and the eventual goal, whether it comes then (in 1984) or whether it has to be delayed," Mr Reagan said.

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## Monopolies reference for £25m Serck deal

By Simon Proctor

The future of the £25m takeover of Serck the valve manufacturer by the BTR engineering group was thrown into doubt yesterday afternoon by the surprise decision of the Department of Trade to refer the bid to the Monopolies Commission.

The announcement immediately prompted Serck's shares to fall 13p to 45p as the bid automatically lapses under the terms of the offer. BTR's shares fell 14p to 32p.

It is now up to BTR, which already owns 50.2 per cent of Serck, to decide whether it wishes to go ahead with the deal or attempt to divest itself of the stake.

The referral of the bid to the commission which has the usual six months to report, comes as a blow to BTR which in recent years has expanded swiftly, partly through acquisition of companies in fields unrelated to its own areas of business.

Although the reference is being made under the standard criteria that the total assets being acquired exceed £15m in value, it is believed to be the first time the Government has decided to take a look at the way conglomerates operate, especially when it comes to moving into areas of new business.

The Monopolies Commission usually concentrates on areas affecting competition in the United Kingdom, and it will almost certainly take in this aspect as well as the effect the deal would have on employment and the balance of payments.

BTR launched its 60p share bid for Serck in September after picking up an 11 per cent stake in a "dawn raid" and buying about 30 per cent from Rockwell Group of the United States. The shareholding was quickly taken above 50 per cent.

The referral places both companies in an acutely difficult position. If BTR wishes to proceed with the bid, it will have to argue its policies before the Commission.

To celebrate the biggest



Dealers crowd the Wedd Durlacher pitch on a hectic first day's trading.

## Cable and Wireless shares sale gets off to spectacular start

By Margaret Pagano

Government de-nationalization move was Wedd Durlacher, the City's leading jobbing firm, had decorated its pitch with maps of Cable's world telecommunications network, its motif and miniature replicas on the roof. Dealers themselves looked on from, adorned, alongside their name labels, with blue and white Cable stickers and the seasonal poppy.

Cable's launch of 50 per cent of its shares to the public had attracted the biggest number of potential investors ever recorded and could have secured £126m of private funds.

Of the 133 million shares on offer some City observers were suggesting last night turnover in the day's business could have been as high as 50 million shares changing hands. Turnover of a third is considered normal in a new issue.

The morning started when a euphoric roar rang out from the impatient dealers to greet the 9:30 am bell which called in Cable's public life. Within seconds the waiting crowd, calculators and walkie-talkies ready in hand, jostled and

pushed to weave their way through the jobbers, the City's leading jobbing firm, had decorated its pitch with maps of Cable's world telecommunications network, its motif and miniature replicas on the roof. Dealers themselves looked on from, adorned, alongside their name labels, with blue and white Cable stickers and the seasonal poppy.

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## More oil companies to raise prices

Motorists face an increase of up to 4p a gallon for petrol from next week as more oil companies follow Texaco's lead in raising prices to recover retail losses and meet new rates set by oil producing nations.

The British National Oil Corporation decided yesterday to increase the price of a barrel of its crude by \$1.50 to \$36.50 because of the Opec decision, backdated to November 1. The rise is not as large as was feared because African oil producers, whose output compares with that of the North Sea, have maintained prices lower than were forecast soon after the Opec decision.

The B.NOC rise would mean an increase of between two to three pence a gallon at filling stations. But the price already has risen at four pence a gallon by the Texaco company which raised its prices from Thursday midnight.

With all the British oil companies claiming a loss on retail supplies at the moment, they are now expected to recoup some of this loss by following the Texaco lead.

BP, Shell and Esso, which supply 55 per cent of the nation's petrol, said yesterday that they were stung by B.NOC's rise. They now announce their own increases next Monday.

B.NOC's move follows a week of discussions with the companies and the Government, which had expected a \$2 rise in a barrel of crude prices. The move puts North Sea crude oil at the same level as Nigeria's for current contracts.

Libya is now reported to be asking \$37.50 for a barrel of Zaidina crude which was quoted before the Opec deal at \$38.50, while Algeria is reported to be selling at \$38, a fall of \$2 a barrel.

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## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

## Pensions

## A way around the transfer trap

Employees who change jobs often get a raw deal when it comes to pensions. The problem of "early leavers" — and many who fall into this category do not change jobs from choice but are made redundant — has been highlighted with the publication, earlier this week, of the National Association of Pension Funds' thoughts in this thorny problem.

The NAPF takes the line that those who change jobs should be aware of the effect that moving will have on future pension benefits and take this into account before making the decision. The Occupational Pensions Board on the other hand, took the view that the present situation is unfair and that legislation is needed to improve the degree of protection given to those who leave a pension scheme early.

While the Government considers whether or not it will go ahead with the OPB's recommendations, insurers London and Manchester have developed a new pension scheme — Transplan — which goes a long way towards providing a better deal for those who move.

Transplan will generally give a more attractive pension at retiring age than the alternatives offered to an employee who is changing jobs.

Pension schemes are designed to benefit those who stay with one employer throughout their working lives and a company is rarely inclined to be generous with pension benefits to those who make a move.

Ex-employees are usually given the option of leaving their pension contributions in the company's pension fund where they will be "frozen" until retirement age, or taking a transfer value of a lump sum which will buy benefits

— usually not as good — in the new employer's pension scheme.

In many pension funds the contributions earn little or no interest during the years until the ex-employee retires. London and Manchester's Transplan offers the chance to take the transfer value and invest it in secure, fixed interest securities, which will earn a minimum guaranteed return of 6 per cent a year and the possibility of something significantly higher.

The fund to which Transplan is linked has earned an average return of 11.5 per cent for the past six years. The effects on the ultimate pension expectation of an employee changing jobs can be dramatic.

London & Manchester quotes as an example, a 43-year-old executive who was offered a "transfer value" of £7,982 from his former employer's pension fund, or the alternative of a pension of £2,692 a year at age 65, with a widow's benefit of £1,346 a year if he died after retirement.

By taking the transfer value and investing it in Transplan, he would get a guaranteed minimum pension of £1,522 a year, less than with his former employer, but an estimated pension of £3,426 a year, assuming that the interest additions to his initial lump sum averaged 11.5 per cent. Even if the 11.5 per cent return turned out to be an over-estimation of 2 or 3 per cent (and there is a guarantee of a return of 6 per cent) it is obvious that the chances are that he will do much better with Transplan than with his former employer's scheme.

London and Manchester paid the company's pension fund 14.5 per cent on the money invested in their fund last year.

The attractions of the scheme are that money is

absolutely safe — it is invested in gilts (government stocks) and debentures, and that the rate of return earned on the money is almost invariably going to be higher than the conservative assumptions made by the actuaries of any pension fund.

When an employee leaves a company pension fund the actuary is asked to calculate both the transfer value and the deferred pension. He will make his calculations assuming a certain rate of return on the fund's investments — say, an average of 8 or 9 per cent. But if, as is likely, the actual return is higher, the deferred pension (the early leaver) derives no benefit from this extra interest — it is simply ploughed back into the fund and is used to offset contributions levels or pay other benefits.

The same applies to the actuary calculating the benefits for a new employee bringing his lump sum "transfer" value. If the fund performs better than expected, the new employee will receive no extra benefit.

Transplan gets round this problem to a great extent, and has been approved by the Inland Revenue as an acceptable alternative for employees leaving pension schemes which are both "contracted in" and "contracted out" of the state earnings-related pension scheme.

London and Manchester reckons that employees with transfer values totalling £200m a year are receiving less than a fair deal because early leavers receive such low priority from pension fund trustees. Transplan is, so far, the only scheme of its kind.

It is stable, but it should not be long before other insurance companies follow suit.

Lorna Bourke

## Shareholders' perks

## Do you want to hire a train?

Perks for shareholders, ranging from a free funeral to a case of champagne, are listed in the latest review produced by stockbrokers Grievson Grant.

Grievson have had long experience of private client business and admit that clients will buy the shares of companies which offer perks, irrespective of the investment potential.

If you are a sucker for a giveaway, the list is fascinating. Shareholders in furniture company, Beal & Son (Holdings), can get a 10 per cent discount at the group's three stores, and anyone with relatives on the Isle of Man might fancy a few shares in the Isle of Man Steam Packet company which offers a discount of 50 per cent on the return ferry trip.

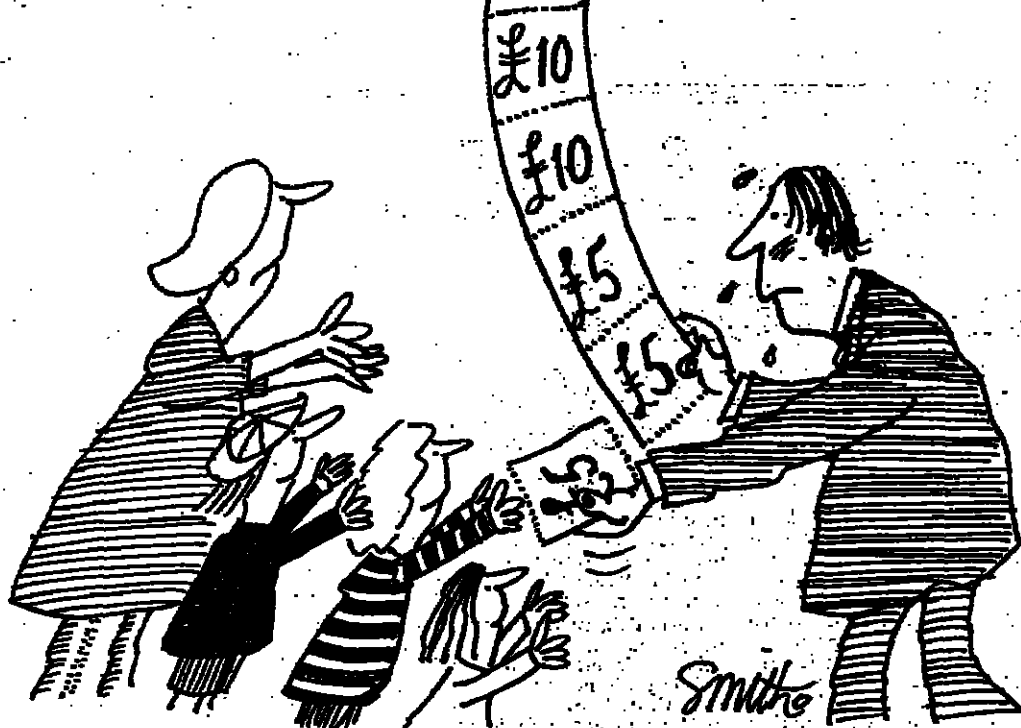
Lombia offers its shareholders a discount at Metro-Hotels and a negotiable discount on Audi and Volkswagen cars, while Key Centre Properties invites shareholders on a four-day excursion to Gibraltar at the company's expense — but you have to attend the annual meeting.

Bulford Franks can get a discount of 15 to 20 per cent on tables and accessories if they are prepared to buy 500 shares in E. J. Riley, and railway enthusiasts with a stake in the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Light Railway Company qualify for a number of travel passes, plus the impressive right to hire a complete train once a year at no cost.

Gardeners might like to buy a few shares in Spear and Jackson, which will entitle them to a discount on hand and garden tools.

Tring Hall Securities, promoters of growing "new enterprise" companies, offers its shareholders the chance to participate in the company's new ventures — a somewhat speculative privilege.

A full list of the perks and discounts available to shareholders is obtainable from Grievson Grant.



National Savings

## Stripping off the income

National Savings certificates are not the most glamorous investment — but they have their uses. The new twenty-third issue, which will show a return of 10.5 per cent tax free over the five-year term, is an attractive bet for all but the non-taxpayer. Only the index-linked issue, the new 27th issue, is available to all — looks like turning in a better return.

Those who buy NS certificates are attracted by the return but may need an income-producing investment. They find it frustrating that certificates have to be held for the full five years to obtain the best return.

It is possible to strip out "income" from the certificates by systematic encash-

ments of units each year. The tables below show the number of certificates which should be encashed each year to obtain income, but return the capital intact after five years. Plan A produces an escalating income, Plan B a more or less level income. In each case a total of 78 units is encashed, leaving at the end of the five-year period 122 units worth £41.20 each or £5,026.40.

The plans are based on the maximum investment of £5,000 but can be scaled down for smaller sums. Certificates are available in various denominations, starting at £25 units.

Annual returns on the escalating income scheme are 8.7 per cent in the first year, 9.5 per cent in the second,

10.5 per cent in the third, 10.9 per cent in the fourth rising to 12.3 per cent by the fifth year.

The more or less level income scheme shows an average annual return of 10.2 per cent over the five-year term.

Few people imagine that inflation is likely to run at much below its present level of 11.5 per cent to 12 per cent a year, so investors who do not already hold the inflation-proof index-linked issue (formerly known as Treasury Bonds) will probably do best to buy these first, rather than the new 23rd issue of savings certificates.

LB

Annual income schemes for 23rd issue National Savings Certificates, leaving original £5,000 intact at the end of the five-year term

| PLAN A    |                              |                    |           | PLAN B                       |                    |           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| At end of | Number of £25 units encashed | Encashment value £ | At end of | Number of £25 units encashed | Encashment value £ | At end of | Number of £25 units encashed |
| 1st year  | 18                           | 438.00             | 1st year  | 18                           | 438.00             | 1st year  | 18                           |
| 2nd year  | 18                           | 477.76             | 2nd year  | 17                           | 507.02             | 2nd year  | 17                           |
| 3rd year  | 18                           | 528.72             | 3rd year  | 16                           | 528.72             | 3rd year  | 16                           |
| 4th year  | 18                           | 549.15             | 4th year  | 14                           | 512.54             | 4th year  | 14                           |
| 5th year  | 18                           | 618.00             | 5th year  | 19                           | 535.60             | 5th year  | 19                           |
| Total     | 78                           | 22,807.63          | Total     | 78                           | 22,572.98          | Total     | 78                           |

## Guaranteed bonus bond

Guaranteed Bonus Bonds from Schroder Life offer a return of 10.75 per cent net of basic rate tax for a four-year investment. Investors who need interest payments more frequently can opt to take

half-yearly payments at the annual rate of 10.5 per cent net of basic rate tax.

For higher rate taxpayers and anyone liable to pay the investment income surcharge the return may be lower

because they may have a further tax liability.

This new bond — effectively a four-year income bond — replaces the existing issue which had a higher return of 11.5 per cent

Lorna Bourke

## Insurance Scheme for pampered pets

The British are notorious for their preference for pets over people and the Pru has seen the opportunity to cash in on it.

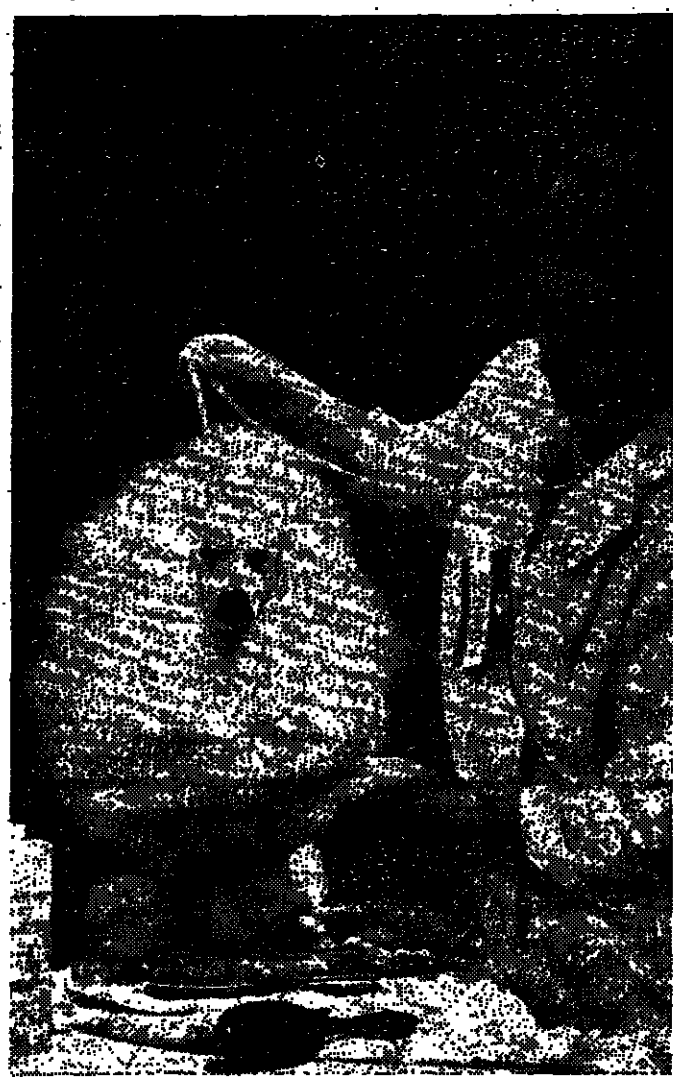
A new insurance policy from Prudential Assurance, called PruPet and aimed at Britain's 12 million pet owners, will provide cover for vets' fees and a cash sum on the death of a favourite animal.

Premiums range from £15 to £30 a year and the family pet, regardless of age, pedigree or previous medical history, can be insured for a death benefit of £50 to £150. This will also cover vets' fees of up to £100 per illness, with the owner having to find the first £5 of each claim.

If the animal strays or is lost, there is help with the cost of advertising to find the missing pet.

Animals get rather better treatment than humans under this scheme — PruPet does not require a pet's veterinary examination before the policy is issued. Pre-existing diseases will be covered by the insurance, though the animal must not be sick, nor receiving treatment, at the start of the insurance cover.

The policy is available from any branch of PruPet, or from the company's sales force.



A miniature poodle is made to look its best.

## Unit trusts

## America vies with Japan for top spot

After the sharp setback in several important world stock markets during September, last month's experience was much less traumatic.

The Tokyo New Stock Exchange Index, for instance, ended October a mere 0.1 per cent below the level of four weeks before. This performance has enabled funds concentrating in particular on the Japanese economy, to continue their domination of the leading positions in the 1981 unit trust league table.

However, several funds investing in the United States put up a good showing last

month. One stock market which continued to decline last month was Australia. The Australian Metals & Minerals Index tumbled more than 12 per cent while the All Ordinaries Index was 4 per cent lower. All three of the industry's long running Aus-

tralian funds, managed by Barclays Unicorn, Henderson and M & G, now appear in the last twenty. This is a dramatic change of fortune compared with 1980 when all ended the year in the top ten.

Otherwise at the wrong end of last year's league table, energy and commodity trusts feature frequently.

agers get their stock selection right, the portfolios can frequently buck the market trend.

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## Top Ten Performers

Value of £100 invested for 10 months to 1 November, net income reinvested

| Trust                             | Value   |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Mill Samuel Far East           | £146.70 |
| 2. Arbuthnot Eastern & Inter.     | £139.90 |
| 3. Crescent Tokyo                 | £132.10 |
| 4. Henderson Japan                | £131.80 |
| 5. Gartmore Japan                 | £131.30 |
| 6. S & P Japan Growth             | £131.00 |
| 7. Target Pacific                 | £130.00 |
| 8. Bishopsgate International      | £130.00 |
| 9. Britannia American Smaller Co. | £129.70 |
| 10. Tyndall North American        | £129.60 |

Source: Planned Savings Magazine.

## National insurance

## How you can escape paying...

Faced with ever-rising national insurance charges for what they feel is little return, some people wonder that they could get a better return on their money if they were allowed to invest it instead.

There are arguments both for and against this point of view, but in fact there is a way of avoiding paying national insurance, so allowing those who want to invest elsewhere to do so.

The method makes use of what is called the "lower earnings limit." This is a figure corresponding roughly to the amount of the single person's old age pension, below which no national insurance contributions have to be paid. Once it is crossed, however, contributions must be paid on all earnings, from the employment including those below the limit.

There are two considerations here. First, for anyone with wages around this limit, it could be a good idea to take a pay cut and save money. Second, it is possible by having a number of jobs which all pay below the limit, not to pay any national insurance at all.

The present weekly limit is £27. The national insurance contribution which has to be paid on earnings of that figure is just over £2 a week. So, for someone with wages around this level, it could be better in cash terms to earn £26.99 a week and pay nothing

in national insurance than to earn £27 and pay out more than £2. However, it must be remembered that in a case like this, no entitlement to pension or other social security benefits would be built up.

Taking the situation a stage further, the limit applies to each job held by a person, not to total earnings from all his jobs. This means, that if someone has more than one job and is paid below the £27 level in all of them, he will not have to pay any national insurance contributions. If he has several jobs, some of which pay over the limit and some under, he only has to pay contributions on those which exceed the limit.

It is possible therefore for someone to earn quite a large wage from a number of different jobs and yet escape any national insurance charge. For example, a job a day Monday to Friday, could earn pay £26.99 (a total of £134.95 a week) and still no contributions would have to be paid. The saving on one-job earnings of this level is about £10.45 a week.

Employers, too, do not have to pay national insurance contributions for their employees in cases where earnings are under the limit. The starting point for national insurance rises each year. Next April it will probably rise to about £30, which would make any savings even greater. If, as it is rumoured, the rate of contribution which has to be paid goes up as well, then that, too, will add to possible savings.

Anyone who tries to get out of paying national insurance in this way will not, of course, qualify for state benefits — contributions are needed for these. But it does give a chance for those who think they could do better elsewhere to find out.

## In brief

## Two new currency funds

Two new currency funds just launched by bankers Manufacturers Hanover, give investors the opportunity to buy either American dollars or take a stake in a managed currency fund.

Geofund Liquid Assets, the dollar fund, is based in Guernsey. Investors must be prepared to put up a minimum of £10,000. They can expect an initial yield of around 14.5 per cent and they have the choice of taking this as income or leaving it to roll up in accumulation units.

If they do the latter they could eventually be liable for income tax on the interest, rather than capital gains tax, as this is a grey area under review by the Revenue.

The Multi Currency Income Trust is a managed currency fund denominated in American dollars, where investors are paying to have the managers take a view on currencies and switch accordingly. Minimum investment is again £10,000.

There is also a 0.25 per cent spread between the bid and offer price on both funds and a 0.5 per cent annual management charge on value of funds managed in the Liquid Assets Fund, with a 0.75 per cent annual charge on the Multi Currency Fund.

## Loans for students

Students having difficulties making ends meet at law school can get fairly cheap loans under a new scheme launched by National Westminster Bank. Loans of up to £2,000 for one-year courses, or £5,000 for two-year students are available at what NatWest describes as a "concessionary" rate of 1 per cent over the bank's base rate, at present 15.5 per cent — better than the normal personal loan rate but still not exactly cheap money. Further details from NatWest.

## Maintenance

Divorce is generally a traumatic experience, made worse by the nagging-over money. The situation is not eased by the complicated tax situation after a marriage breaks up.

A useful booklet covering the tax problems associated with tax and maintenance payments is available from Oyez. It gives examples showing how to calculate the best arrangement in various circumstances.

The book is not cheap — £5.95 — but the consequences of getting things wrong and setting up maintenance arrangements which are not "tax efficient" is very high. This is also an area where some solicitors are less than competent.

The booklet, *Tax on Maintenance Payments*, by Donald Williams and Joel Newman is available from Oyez, Norwich House, 11/13 Norwich Street, London EC4A 1AB.

## Town and Country

Town and Country Building Society is offering 11 per cent on its one month's notice account, not the rate published last week.

No claims discounts of up to 40 per cent are available on a new SENTRY motor cycle insurance policy, for those who manage to avoid accidents. The discount is 15 per cent after one year, 25 per cent at the end of the second year and 30 per cent in year three, rising to a maximum of 40 per cent in the fourth year. New policy holders qualify for a 15 per cent no claims discount, if they can prove an accident-free record.

## Bank Base Rates

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| ABN Bank            | 15% |
| Barclays            | 15% |
| BCCI                | 15% |
| Consolidated Crds.  | 15% |
| C. Hoare & Co.      | 15% |
| Lloyds Bank         | 15% |
| Midland Bank        | 15% |
| Nat Westminster     | 15% |
| TSB                 | 15% |
| Williams and Glyn's | 15% |

\* 7 day deposit on savings of £1,000 and over 15% over £50,000 12% over

## M. J. H. Nightingale &amp; Co. Limited

27/28, Tavistock Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

## The Over-the-Counter Market

| 1980/81 | High | Low | Company            | Price | Ch'ge | Gross Divd | %    | Actual | P/E  | Fully Valued |
|---------|------|-----|--------------------|-------|-------|------------|------|--------|------|--------------|
| 114     | 100  | 98  | ARI Hldgs 10% CULS | 109   | -1    | 10.0       | 9.2  | —      | —    | —            |
| 76      | 39   | 38  | Alpspring Group    | 67    | -4    | 7.0        | 10.6 | 14.7   | —    | —            |
| 52      | 21   | 20  | Arcturion & Rhodes | 43    | -3    | 10.0       | 3.6  | 8.1    | —    | —            |
| 200     | 97   | 96  | Bardon Hill        | 193   | -9    | 5.0        | 9.4  | 11.4   | —    | —            |
| 104     | 88   | 87  | Deborah Services   | 98    | -5    | 5.6        | 4.9  | 9.2    | —    | —            |
| 126     | 88   | 87  | Frank Horsell      | 120   | -6    | 5.3        | 10.8 | 26.1   | —    | —            |
| 110     | 39   | 38  | Frederick Parker   | 60    | -1    | 2.8        | 26.1 | —      | —    | —            |
| 102     | 93   | 92  | IPC                | 100   | -1    | 7.3        | 7.2  | 10.9   | —    | —            |
| 113     | 59   | 58  | Jackson Group      | 58    | -7    | 7.1        | 3.1  | 7.0    | —    | —            |
| 130     | 103  | 102 | James Burrough     | 110   | -8    | 7.9        | 8.0  | 10.1   | —    | —            |
| 334     | 244  | 243 | Robert Jenkins     | 288   | -2    | 31.3       | 10.9 | 4.0    | 10.2 | —            |
| 59      | 50   | 49  | Scruttons "A"      | 54    | -1    | 5.3        | 8.3  | 9.7    | —    | —            |
| 224     | 181  | 180 | Torday Limited     | 181   | -1    | 15.1       | 8.3  | 7.0    | 12.0 | —            |
| 23      | 8    | 7   | Twinlock Ord       | 14    | -1    | —          | —    | —      | —    | —            |
| 90      | 68   | 67  | Twinlock 15% ULS   | 77    | -1    | 15.0       | 21.1 | —      | —    | —            |
| 56      | 33   | 32  | Unilock Holdings   | 34    | -3    | 8.9        | 6.1  | 10.3   | —    | —            |
| 103     | 81   | 80  | Walter Alexander   | 84    | -4    | 7.6        | 5.5  | 9.8    | —    | —            |
| 263     | 181  | 180 | W. S. Yeates       | 219   | -1    | 13.1       | 6.0  | 4.1    | 8.4  | —            |

Don't all pension schemes for smaller businesses provide the same benefits?

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It's easy to assume that all insurance companies are much the same, with each one offering pension schemes that have little to choose between them.

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Differences like these enable London Life to offer a pension scheme for the smaller business that stands out from the rest — the VIP Scheme.

Through the VIP Scheme, an employer can provide selected employees (from directors and senior executives to general members of staff) with an exceptionally attractive pension package which has the special feature of allowing an employee to take his accrued benefits with him without penalty should he leave the company's service.

To find out more about the benefits that the VIP Scheme offers a company and its employees, please complete the coupon. We'll send you full details, right away.

To John Lowe, The London Life Association Limited, Freepost, 100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6JY (no stamp required).

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Pension Schemes for Directors, Executives and

Voluntary Contribution Schemes (for those wishing to top up their company pension scheme benefits)

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Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel Nos. Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

If you prefer, you can call John Lowe on (0272) 279179 to discuss your requirements personally.

A better value pension plan from a different kind of company



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Edited by LORNA BOURKE

FINANCIAL NEWS

# NCC's deal with Simplicity is off

The £50m all-share reverse takeover bid by Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey's NCC Energy group for cash-rich Simplicity Patterns of the United States is off.

New York stock market share dealer Mr Carl Icahn of Bayswater Realty & Capital Corporation said with a bid of \$11.50 for each Simplicity share to take his 13 per cent holding to 30 per cent, effectively blocking the merger which needed the consent of two thirds of the shareholders.

Mr Icahn said nearly two months ago that he was studying plans to make an offer himself, a move Mr Lacey dismissed as having little credi-

bility. Mr Lacey told shareholders at NCC's annual meeting a few days later: "This is the first time I have seen a shareholder give notice of a bid. I will consider it credible when we have a bid before us."

Simplicity deal which would have given NCC about £47m cash, was said to be worth around 170p to NCC shareholders. Yesterday morning Mr Lacey called a halt to dealings at 90p while he made the announcement that the deal was off. They later resumed 5p lower at 85p.

It is understood that Mr Icahn went to a New York bank earlier this week and borrowed about \$21m (£12m) to tender for Simplicity stock at \$11.50 a

share when it stood at \$10.50 on Wall Street. Last night Simplicity was trading at \$9, a share.

A spokesman for Mr Lacey said that although he had lost this battle, the war was not over and he expected further market manoeuvres before NCC would make a decision on whether to pull out altogether.

Yesterday Mr Lacey said he had agreed with the Simplicity board that four NCC nominees would join the board at the annual meeting next week. He remains chairman of the inner-cabinet committee which takes the executive decisions for the pattern group.

NCC says it is now reviewing various alternatives.



Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey, chairman of NCC Energy.

## Shares of Finlan fall as bid talks fail

By Margaret Pagano

Shares in John Finlan, the Cheshire-based builder and developer, fell 23p to 143p in late dealings last night as the group announced that talks with a possible bidder had broken down.

Mr John Finlan, chairman, said the talks had been called off because the unnamed suitor had failed to offer a price that could be recommended to shareholders. Talks had been going on since July, but it was only at the beginning of October that the group announced that negotiations would be completed in six weeks' time. Then Mr Finlan said the outcome depended only on money. At 143p the group is valued at £425,000.

Speculation in the City on the mystery bidder was still putting McLeod Russell, the tea plantation group, as its favourite. McLeod directors were not available last night. They declined to comment on the matter earlier in October.

Finlan recently released first-half figures showing a 13.8 per cent rise in pretax profits to £307,000 and a doubled dividend of 4.29p a share. In 1980, profits were £513,000 before tax.

## Profits at gravel firm fall sharply

Pretax profits of the Hovingham Group, the gravel to waste disposal concern, being taken over by Tarmac Roadstone, slumped from £1.4m to £465,000 for the first six months of 1981, according to the formal offer document published yesterday. In 1980 Hovingham made £2.2m before tax.

The document also disclosed that the insurance broking business of Hovingham, which was on the point of being sold to the Needler family trusts for £1.5, has attracted the interest of another, unnamed buyer.

In the six months to June, Hovingham's turnover was £35m against £37.9m. The trading surplus came to £4.9m, compared with £5.8m, and earnings per share were 0.82p, against 1.53p. The group is not paying an interim dividend.

The offer document contains a letter from Mr Christopher Needler, the Hovingham chairman, recommending acceptance of the offer.

In his letter Mr Needler says that Tarmac Roadstone had been willing to sell Hovingham's investment in its insurance broking business, Hovingham Insurance Brokers, to Needler family trusts for £1.5m.

## Fortnum & Mason reduces loss

In the 28 weeks to August 15, Fortnum and Mason, who owns the store of the same name in London's Piccadilly, made a trading loss of £306,000, compared with a loss of £362,000 for the first 26 weeks of the preceding year. But interest receivable fell from £234,000 to £183,000 and the loss at the pretax level was slightly reduced, from £128,000 to £123,000.

With tax recoverable of £186,000, against £121,000, there is a net profit of £63,000, against a net loss of £7,000.

Declaring an unchanged interim dividend of 5p gross a share, the chairman, Mr G. H. Weston, reports that given the uncertainties, it is impossible to forecast the year's outcome. But the board believes trading results will continue to improve.

## Television South

Television South, the new contractor for the South and South East regions, yesterday launched its offer for subscription shares. Henry Ansbacher, the group's merchant bankers, are offering 6.02 million ordinary 10p shares and £1.88m unsecured loan stock at 14p per cent, rising to 20 per cent from November 1984.

## Christie-Tyler

Christie-Tyler has acquired for an undisclosed sum the rights to most of the upholstery products previously manufactured by Harris Lebus from the receiver, together with the trade name and goodwill of Lebus and certain related stocks.

## Sharna Ware

Sharna Ware's offshoot, Orbro Cash and Carry, has signed a contract with Devereux, a property development company, under which Devereux has agreed to construct a trade cash-and-carry warehouse for £800,000. The building will occupy an area of about 60,000 sq ft on a site in Cheshire.

Existing cash-and-carry warehouses are operated from Manchester, Bradford and Glasgow, with a selling area of 102,000 sq ft. This area will now be increased by 59 per cent.

## Eva Industries

After an almost doubled interest charge of £752,000—compared with £392,000 last time—Eva Industries crashed to a pretax loss of £13,000 in the half-year to September 30. This compares with a pretax profit of £231,000 in the similar six months in 1980. Sales improved from £14.2m to £14.67m.

Mr T. R. Astley, the chairman, reports that action taken reflects positively the group's short-term profitability and

## Grampian Television

In the half-year to August 31, Grampian Television's pretax profits fell from £288,000 to £256,000, after provision for Exchequer levy of £16,000, compared with £114,000 in 1980. Tax is down from £155,000 to £119,000, so net profits are virtually unchanged at £137,000, against £133,000. Turnover rose from £3.3m to £3.8m.

## Henry Ansbacher

In July of this year, Henry Ansbacher & Co., the largest operating subsidiary of Henry Ansbacher Holdings, was recognized by the Secretary of State for Trade as a banking company under Schedule 8 of the Companies Act, 1948. The group will

## Moss beats forecast

Moss Engineering's pretax profits for the year to August 31, at £656,000, are comfortably ahead of the £600,000 forecast at the time of the July rights issue. At the same time, Moss has carried through a major reorganization. Pretax profits for 1979-80 were £706,000.

Trading profits reached a best-ever £1.54m (against £1.47m), but interest charges jumped from £513,000 to £788,000. Turnover rose by 11 per cent to £16.7m. The UK recession meant a static home sales performance, but exports jumped by 35 per cent to £5m. As forecast, the total dividend is held at 8.5p gross.

**Japan's economic performance**

Japan's economic performance remarkable, says OECD

Japan Forecast to Surpass U.S. in Per Capita Income

**Malaysia: Economic Growth and Political Stability**

Singapore Economy Grew 10.3% in Half

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**Singapore: ASEAN's Most Impressive Economy**

Japanese Textile Exports Experience Surprise Boom

# JAPAN AND PACIFIC

## First public offer of units in National Westminster Japanese and Pacific Growth Trust.

The spectacular growth of the economies of Japan and the general Pacific Basin is evident to us all in the U.K. You have only to drive a car, listen to Hi-Fi, watch Video, TV, or wear a digital watch to be reminded of Far Eastern expertise in high technology and mass production.

Of all the industrial economies Japan's record of growth over the last 30 years has been unrivalled by any of its major competitors. This success is reflected in a stock market that has more than doubled in the last decade. Similarly, excellent growth rates have occurred in Japan's adjacent Pacific area, namely Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore.

In the 1980's as Japan and the Pacific area increases its technological lead across a wide range of products the economy is expected to continue to capitalise on its proven strengths:

- \* A flexible highly motivated labour force.
- \* Aggressive marketing.
- \* Export orientated Companies proving able to identify and build new markets worldwide.
- \* Growth conscious Governments.
- \* Companies which have historically concentrated on capital reinvestment thus ensuring sound future growth.
- \* Low inflation—sound currencies.

In all, prospects for Japan and the Pacific Basin in the coming decade appear to be among the best in the world.

The prime objective is maximum long term capital growth. Capital appreciation is foreseen as the trust's major objective. Consequently, income will be of minor consideration.

The Managers believe that the Far East has substantial potential for long term economic growth and that this will be reflected in the growth of profits and dividends of individual companies and thereby in their share ratings. In some countries the factors underlying the fast economic growth still hold good while in others the discoveries of natural resources provide potential for future developments. In the shorter term the Far East is likely to record a higher growth against a background of increasing demand, higher levels of world trade, and lessening dependency on imported oil.

The new National Westminster Japanese and Pacific Growth Trust will aim to benefit directly from this dynamic situation.

The Managers believe that an investment in overseas securities through the new National Westminster Japanese and Pacific Growth Trust, is currently especially attractive, whilst there are no U.K. Government exchange controls prevailing on investments abroad.

**A proven record: Investment Management by County Bank**

The investments will be professionally managed by County Bank, the wholly owned merchant banking subsidiary of the National Westminster Bank Group. County Bank has a highly successful track record through its active direction of investment, pension and unit trust funds and currently has over £2 billion under its management. County Bank will be able to draw upon the National Westminster Group's strong and local knowledge of the area.

**How to invest now**

Simply fill in the coupon below or alternatively take it to any branch of National Westminster Bank. The minimum investment is £500. This is equivalent to 1,000 units in the trust at the price of 50.0p. This price is fixed until 26 November for new applications.

Distribution of income from units (which should be regarded as of secondary priority for such a trust) may be reinvested into the trust. In view of the specialised nature of this trust which aims primarily for capital appreciation, the Managers strongly recommend to investors that income distributions should be automatically reinvested in the trust.

You should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

**Additional Information**

Applications will not be acknowledged but certificates will be issued within 42 days.

Distributions of net income will be made half yearly on 20 April and 20 October. The first distribution for investments made now will be on 20 April 1982.

The offer price of 50p per unit gives an estimated gross starting yield of £0.375p a unit. (This is equivalent to a net yield of £0.269p a unit.)

After the close of this offer units can always be bought at the prevailing offer price. The current offer and bid prices and estimated gross yield will be published daily in the press.

If you wish, you can buy units through your own bank, stockbroker, solicitor or accountant. Remuneration is payable to qualified agents and the rates are available on request. The offer price of units includes an initial charge of 5%. Thereafter a half yearly charge of 0.375% plus VAT of the value of the Trust is deducted from the gross income of the Trust to cover administration costs, although the Trust Deed permits this to be increased to 0.5% + VAT. To sell units simply return your certificate(s) duly endorsed and you will receive the cash value within 10 days, based on the bid price ruling on the day of receipt.

The management company is National Westminster Unit Trust Managers Limited.

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The new Honda CX 500 "turbo" motor cycle. Turbo-charged engines give much greater power than conventional engines of the same capacity

## Motor cycle puzzle for the insurers

Motor cycle enthusiasts will soon have something new to cover as Honda is expected to launch the first production turbocharged motorcycle into the United Kingdom in December. It has a 500cc engine, but is expected to have the power of an 1100cc machine, and will undoubtedly come top of many a Christmas present list. But being able to afford one will be one problem and insuring it another.

A turbocharger gives a motorcycle much more power for a given engine size than a conventional power plant of comparable capacity. And as most insurance companies calculate the size of their premiums by the cubic capacity of a motor cycle engine these new machines are expected to create problems in insurance calculations.

Specialist insurers Devit D.A. refuse to insure turbo-charged machines. General Accident say that it has not yet reached any decision and although Norwich Union is prepared to give cover, it stresses that it is watching the situation very carefully.

The British Motorcycling Federation believes that turbocharged engines could become the norm and expects that these machines will prompt companies to rate motorcycles on their power output and other factors and not just engine size. This, it says, would level out a lot of the disparity in motorcycle insurance by putting a higher premium on super-powered machines and reducing costs for work-horse commuter bikes.

Motor cyclists form only 6 per cent of all road transport

but are responsible for nearly 20 per cent of road accident deaths, so it is easy to appreciate why only a small number of companies are now prepared to insure machines.

And figures from the British Insurance Association suggest that over an extended period a motorcyclist is some eight times more likely to have an accident than a car driver.

While a number of big insurance companies now only regard their motorcycle accounts as a "service" to customers, the Norwich Union and Devit D.A. specialists in the field and take a commanding share of the market.

This motorcyclist would seem to be faced with a narrow choice of insurers. But, increasingly, both motorcycle manufacturers and other bodies have begun schemes of their own resulting in a much wider range of policies, so it will pay to shop around.

The youngest (and often keenest) sector of the market is worst hit. Premiums for 17 year olds are particularly high as all companies rate them as a very bad risk.

Norwich Union, for example, calculate that a rider aged between 17 and 19 on a 350cc machine with a full comprehensive policy would stand a 50 per cent chance of making a claim in any year.

Most teenagers ride machines of up to 250cc which is the maximum allowed on a provisional licence—and most companies quote a premium for a 17 year old on a 250cc machine of over £400.

At the moment there seems little that the young motor-

cyclist can do about it, but there is the consolation that premiums begin to tumble very fast as soon as he is into his twenties. For example, Norwich Union says that the premium for a 25 year-old on a 350cc machine would be four times lower than that quoted to a teenager.

But owners of high capacity machines will also face insurance headaches.

Norwich Union are prepared to quote premiums on high capacity machines, but as the same time do not offer any "no claims" discount, so the experienced enthusiast might be better off looking at one of the several specialist schemes on the market geared to the mature rider.

The British Motorcycling Federation, for example, offer an excellent policy for their members (annual subscription cost is £5 a year). The initial premium is comparable to other companies, but the advantage is that they offer up to a 40 per cent discount for four years no-claims, plus another 10 per cent discount for proficiency holders.

Owners of Japanese motorcycles, in particular, could find it more economical to join an insurance scheme arranged by a particular manufacturer. Devit D.A. rate a Kawasaki or Suzuki higher than the more pedestrian MZ, with a similar engine size as it has found that the relatively expensive Japanese motorcycles are more accident prone.

Kawasaki has found a way round this organizing a special scheme with the Norwich Union through Charlesworth Motor Policies, for owners of their machines.

Patrick Donovan

## Currencies The yen to be another front runner?

Buy the yen and the Swiss franc for the long-term view—stay away from the middle surrounding the short-term dollar markets after Thursday's conflicting figures about the Japanese economy. That was the view of the pundits yesterday.

Bankers report that buying of the yen seems to be lagging behind the trade figures. Sooner or later, many believe, the exporters will have to come out with their orders.

Other positive points for the yen are that foreign buyers of Japanese stocks

have emerged again after the huge fall on the Tokyo stock market and that members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries are making complimentary noises about the Japanese economy again.

The view on the Swiss franc continues to be that the tight money policies being pursued by the Swiss government to bring down the level of inflation (nearly 8 per cent) will bring the franc back to star status. Even if the Germans relax their interest rates, it is believed, the Swiss will not follow.

Meanwhile, in the United States Henry Kaufman of Salomon Bros, the market chief, "survives" now says that American interest rates will not start climbing again for some time—say, 12 months rather than six. This is because the American government seems to want to bring interest rates down as fast as possible to stop the recession worsening.

That view is good for American shares, but not for the dollar.

Sally White

## Your money market best buys

Banks

Current account — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — Lloyd's 13.5 per cent. West, Midland & Barclays, 14 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawal. For sums of £10,000 or more rate fixed for the term. Fixed-term deposits — 1 month, 14% per cent; 3 months, 14% per cent; 6 months, 14% per cent; 12 months, 15% per cent.

Money Funds

Simco 7-day fund, 15.42 per cent; UDT Average Rate Deposit Fund, 16% per cent; Tyndall 7-day fund, 15.5 per cent; Simco dollar fund, 13.8 per cent; interest paid without deduction of tax. Further details from Simco (01-236 0233), Tyndall (01-0272 32241), UDT (scheme now closed to new investment).

Building Societies

Ordinary share accounts — 9.75 per cent. Term shares — 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 p.c. and 2 p.c. over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes — 1.25 per cent. BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building

societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts payable by basic rate tax, not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Local Authority Yearling Bonds

12-month fixed rate investments, interest 15.5 p.c. paid net of basic rate tax (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local Authority Town Hall Bonds

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). Best offers: 1 year, Knowsley 14% p.c.; 4 years, North Tyneside 14% p.c.; 5 years, Rydburn 15 p.c.; 10 years, Wycombe 14% p.c. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-328 7855, after 3 p.m.). See also, on Prestel no 24808.

National Savings Bank

Ordinary accounts — interest 5 p.c. first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account — 14.5 p.c. interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

15 p.c. from December 1.

National Savings Index-Linked Certificates

Maximum investment £5,000, interest tax-free and linked to changes in the retail prices index. 4 p.c. bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 certificates purchased in November 1976, £101.43 including 4 p.c. bonus.

National Savings Certificates — 23rd Issue

Return totally free of all taxes, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five year term of 10.5 p.c., maximum investment £5,000, on sale from November 5.

Finance for Industry

Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13% p.c.; 5-6 years, 13% p.c.; 7 years, 13% p.c.; 8-9 years, 14 p.c.; 10 years, 14 p.c. Further information from FFI, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Finance House Deposits (UDT)

Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deduction of tax. For sums of £10,000 or more: 1 month, 15 p.c.; 3 months, 15% p.c.; 6 months, 14% p.c.; 12 months, 14% p.c.

Foreign Currency Deposits\*

Interest paid without deduction of tax.

|              | Call     | 7-days notice |
|--------------|----------|---------------|
| US dollar    | 11% p.c. | 12 p.c.       |
| DM           | 2% p.c.  | 2% p.c.       |
| D. Mark      | 7% p.c.  | 8 p.c.        |
| French Franc | 11 p.c.  | 11% p.c.      |
| Swiss Franc  | 4 p.c.   | 4% p.c.       |

\*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

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### Squash rackete

## A lesson from the young master

By Richard Eaton

Jahangir Khan won £2,200 for taking the World Masters title sponsored by Thorn-EMI Heating at Kingston Squash Club, Newcastle, last night when he beat his fellow Pakistani Qasim Zaman 4-9, 9-5, 9-5, 9-5. Although it was the most predictable outcome of the whole championship it was still the most remarkable, simply because of the fact that he achieved it on a month short of his 18th birthday.

It was also the teenager's biggest success so far though not his biggest prize money haul, but it includes the Pakistan Open, the Welsh Masters, the British Under-25 Open and the World Open in Toronto may well be added to it in just over three weeks' time.

The success was achieved in 67 minutes against a man who was supposed to be a revelation. Zaman was the first game, led 4-2 in the second and even went over a hundred in the third. But, amazingly, he realised it as long as he possibly could. He insisted all week that he would shatter his opponent too lazy to remain a force and went a long way towards doing it.

Zaman's new found rigidity, it maintained, was a revelation. It was another difficulty for Geoff Hunt, the world champion. The Australian is scheduled to play him in the semi-finals of the Toronto and Zaman, so often second-best in the past, is determined to make one last serious attempt to beat his old rival. "Even if he beats me he will be tired for Jahangir in the final," he said.

Jahangir beat Zaman because he stuck to his guns. He was not from Hunt usually works best—the highest possible pace, complicity with good length and consistency of movement—and he stuck to it throughout. Zaman tried different styles, unusual for him. He tried

drops, cut-offs and angles. There were no clear conclusions but Zaman reckoned he was in the

[illegible]

**Motor racing**  
**Finance causes**  
**replacement**  
**of Dutch GP**

## Of Dutch Gr

Paris, Nov. 6.—There will be no Dutch Grand Prix at Zandvoort, Netherlands, this year, because of a one season. Motor racing's ruling Body FISA announced here today that the Dutch Grand Prix, crippled by financial problems at the Zandvoort track, has been replaced by the Austrian Grand Prix, to be held in August.

An international motor sports tribunal, which has been the subject of a controversial double "sprung" Lotus 88 grand prix car for the second and apparently final time. Technically, the judges of the five-day court of the International Automobile Federation (FIA) ruled that an appeals court of the British Royal Automobile Club did not have jurisdiction to hear the case. The car should have been banned from the British Grand Prix.

They ruled no other appeal against a declaration by FISA that the car, they said, was "grossly illegal," was possible now. The Lotus team owner, Colin Chapman, who has been fighting the case since the year it was declared illegal, said he was "staggered

## Wilson in lead.

Lisbon, Nov. 6.—The British driver Malcolm Wilson (Ford Escort) is in the lead in the Algarve Rally after the first stage from Aldeia do Golf to Aldeia das Amieiras, in South Portugal. Two Portuguese drivers, Carlos Torres (Ford Escort) and Samuêlo Mendes (Datsun 160) were re-elected to the second and third—  
AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

## For the record

### Tennis

STOCKHOLM: Second round (US unless stated): J. Connors beat S. Glickstein (Israel) 6-7, 7-5, 5-1; N. Pietrangeli beat J. Nease (Romania) 6-2, 6-2; P. Elser (w. Germany) beat G. D. Borge (w. Germany) 6-3, 6-2.

[illegible]

**Cricket**  
ADELAIDE: Sheffield Shield; South Australia, 326 for 2 (J. CROWE 143, not

Quint, M. Darling 71), ♀ New South Wales,









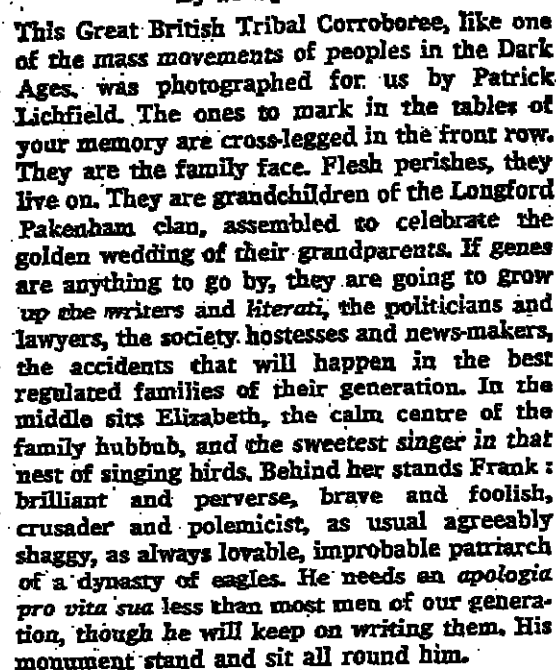








**By Philip Howard**



(Paddy); Rebecca Fraser  
(Antonia); Benjie Fraser  
(Antonia); Damian  
Fraser (Antonia); Richard  
P (Paddy); Natasha  
Fraser (Antonia); Lindsay  
Levine (Michael's step-  
daughter); Maria P  
(Tom); Miranda  
Kazantzis (Judith);  
Orlando Fraser (Antonia).

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.